

OAKMONT NEWS

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The Official Newspaper of the Oakmont Village Association

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Town Hall on Spring Ballot Bylaws Amendments February 19

The 2026 election in April will include a separate ballot asking members to vote on proposed changes relating to two amendments of the bylaws. Members will receive two ballot packets, one for electing directors and one for amendments to the bylaws.

The following two proposals are on the ballot:

- To change the quorum and threshold for amending the bylaws to 50% for quorum, and 55% approval for threshold.
- To allow the board to bring the bylaws into legal compliance with state law without requiring a member vote.

The proposed legal compliance amendment applies only to updates required by state law. Membership votes would continue to be required for other areas, including, but not limited to, voting eligibility, member rights, special assessments and dues increases, and more.

The OVA board will host a Town Hall with OVA's attorneys on Thursday, Feb. 19, 1 p.m. at the Berger Center, and also on Zoom. This presentation will cover each of the two proposed amendments and will allow time for questions.

Both ballots must be returned by 5 p.m. on April 5 to be included in the April 6 election.

Join Zoom Meeting on Feb. 19: Meeting ID 834 5190 7453; Passcode 232732.

Town Hall Planned for SESR Project

■Oakmont Village Association

The plans for Southeast Santa Rosa Senior Housing Community (SESR), the planned development formerly known as Elnoka, were recently submitted to the City of Santa Rosa by Burbank Housing. This project proposes 273 senior housing units on the 69-acre parcel along Highway 12, just northwest of Oakmont.

To help residents learn more about SESR, the timeline for the project, and what a neighboring community like this will mean for Oakmont, members of Burbank and the City of Santa Rosa will be hosting a Town Hall with Q&A in our community on Monday, March 23, 5–7 p.m. at the Berger Center. The presentation will also be held on Zoom.

Zoom Meeting ID: 836 5943 9620

Candidates Night Set for February 18

■News Staff

Six candidates—Josh Axelrod, Greg Darcy, Heidi Klyn, Theresa (Terrie) Mui, Matt Oliver, and Steve Spanier—are running for three open seats on the Oakmont Village Association Board. Three candidates, Betsy Herbert, Thomas Mosby and Merry Tantaros, who were included on the pre-ballot notice sent to residents, have withdrawn.

Community members will have the opportunity to learn more about them during Candidates Night on Wednesday, Feb. 18, from 5 p.m. to 8 p.m. at the Berger Center, and also on Zoom, where the candidates will introduce themselves and answer questions from residents.

To attend by Zoom: Webinar ID: 850 0788 0448, Passcode: 227426

Members are encouraged to submit questions to askova@oakmontvillage.com by Feb. 15. Questions must be addressed to all candidates rather than specific individuals. To ensure efficiency, submissions will be reviewed and consolidated by topic. Due to time constraints, not all questions may be selected.

Many of the candidates are also holding Meet and Greet events throughout the weeks leading up to the election. Residents can find a list of these events and other election related news on the OVA website at oakmontvillage.com/candidates.

Ballots for the election will be mailed or emailed to members on March 4. All ballots must be received by the Inspector of Elections no later than 5 p.m. on April 5. Ballots must be mailed or submitted electronically and will not be accepted at the OVA office or on the day of the election.

Election results will be announced at the 2026 Organizational Meeting following ballot counting on April 6.

Read the statements from this year's board candidates on pages 4-5.

Key Dates for the 2026 Election

February 5: Candidate signs allowed

February 18: Candidates' Night

March 4: Ballots sent to residents

April 5: Deadline for all ballots*

April 6: Election scheduled for 10 a.m.

April 12: Candidates signs to be removed

*Note: Ballots, electronic and mailed in, must be received by the Inspector of Elections no later than 5 p.m. on April 5.

Firewise Town Hall

At a Town Hall on Feb. 3, Oakmont residents were treated to a presentation by fire scientist Dr. Stephen Quarles, who shared ways to lessen fire risk and highlighted important retrofits homeowners can do. Sonoma County Fire Inspectors R. Cater and Patricia Elder also attended the presentation alongside residents.



L. to R.: OVA Board member Jeff Neuman, Oakmont Firewise Assessor Dave Watts, R. Cater, and Patricia Elder. A video of this presentation can be found on the Firewise committee page on the OVA website. (Photo by Iris Harrell)

Support Urged for Burbank's SESR Development

■OVA Board

The OVA Board has issued an update on the Southeast Santa Rosa Senior Housing Community (SESR) planned development, formerly known as Elnoka.

Over a period of at least 20 years, several groups have organized to ensure Oakmont's best interests are heard and realized by developers.

These determined efforts have achieved the following:

1. The proposed number of units has been reduced to 273. Prior proposals exceeded 600-700 units. For comparison, the Mahonia Glen condos, across from Safeway on Calistoga Road, has 99 units on seven acres.

2. The new community is now proposed as senior housing.

3. All structures have a planned setback of at least 70 feet from property lines, including the portion of the property that borders Oakmont. This setback is greater than what is required.

4. The maximum building height will be two stories to help preserve Oakmont residents' views.

5. The densest part will be close to Highway 12. The density will decrease up the slope towards the state park, preserving views and open space along Santa Rosa Creek.

6. Bicyclists and walkers will enjoy new paths, allowing passage while avoiding Highway 12.

7. Most importantly, the plans include an Emergency Vehicle Access (EVA) funded by the developer, with maintenance costs covered by the City. This EVA will provide Oakmont with an additional emergency access route, under the direction of the city, that does not connect to Highway 12.

OVA's general manager, Christel Antone, and a few members from the community have been working closely with Burbank Housing and the City of Santa Rosa to help influence these changes for the benefit of our community, and the board is pleased with the outcome of these meetings as this development progresses.

See **SESR UPDATE** on page 5

THE PROFESSIONAL TEAM THAT DELIVERS

TEAM DEVOTO is proud to share our 2025 sales!
We represented the Buyers, Sellers, or both in the following list of homes:

8789 Oakmont Drive
150 Valley Oaks Drive
250 Mockingbird Circle
6514 Stone Bridge Road
350 Oak Leaf Circle
2817 Hidden Valley Drive
8916 Oakmont Drive

338 Singing Brook Circle
6343 Pine Valley Drive
4 Valley Green Street
8912 Oakmont Drive
6941 Oak Leaf Drive
275 Mockingbird Circle
7083 Overlook Drive
240 Silver Creek Road

Willowglen Duets:
6601 Stone Bridge Road
6603 Stone Bridge Road
6607 Stone Bridge Road
6609 Stone Bridge Road
6613 Stone Bridge Road
6615 Stone Bridge Road

With our combined 53 years of selling Oakmont homes, it has been both a personal & professional pleasure working with our community, and we look forward to many more years of service.

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Real Estate Team*

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707-953-5458
DRE# 00771931



Vanessa
707-583-4202
DRE# 01976215

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Know Your Emergency Alerts and Evacuation Zones

■Katy Carrel, MYN

Oakmonters may have recently received a shelter-in-place alert related to a gas leak, which listed several evacuation zones. Those zones did not include Oakmont. Still, the alert served as a helpful reminder for residents to know which evacuation zone they live in or frequent, so they're better prepared to respond quickly if an evacuation warning or order is issued for their area.

MYN has a list of Emergency Alerts and Evacuation Zones on their website at oakmontvillage.com/myn. You can find this list by clicking Oakmont Ready Tips, then finding the link under Alerts. This document shares the alerts you should have installed on your cell phones, those we recommend you register for, and websites that provide valuable information. We have also explained the Santa Rosa City and Sonoma County Evacuation Zones, how to find your zones, and what they mean.

If you'd like to learn more about emergency preparedness and connecting with your neighbors, visit the MYN web page at oakmontvillage.com/MYN, or attend one of our meetings. We meet monthly on the fourth Wednesday at 2 p.m. in the East Rec. Center.

Recology Materials Recovery/ Recycling Facility Tour

■Carolyn Greene, Oakmont Environmental Stewardship Task Force

TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 17, 10:30 AM-NOON

Curious about what happens to all the paper, plastic, cans and bottles we put in our blue bins every Thursday? Sign up for a free tour of Recology's recycling facility, organized by the Oakmont Environmental Stewardship Task Force (OESTF).

The \$35 million state-of-the-art facility opened in 2024 in southwest Santa Rosa and processes 400 tons of recyclables from 13 communities every day, with an 85% recovery rate. This is a tour of an industrial facility with considerable walking, steps, and loud noises; guests must wear closed toe shoes and use safety equipment provided by Recology, including hard hats, vests and ear protection.

Only 12 spaces are available. We meet at 9:45 a.m. in the Berger parking lot to arrange carpools. To register, email me at cgnpark@icloud.com by February 14.

If you can't make this one, the next tour will be Friday, March 6.

For information on the OESTF, including volunteer opportunities, email oakmontenvirostewardship@gmail.com or check out our webpage www.oakmontvillage.com/OESTF.

How Changes in California's Insurance Regulations Affect Homeowners Policy

■Roger Biery, Firewise Task Force

Nearly five years in the making, California's Sustainable Insurance Strategy is intended to improve homeowners insurance availability statewide, as more companies commit to writing new policies. Over time, this change may create new opportunities for some Oakmont residents who are currently insured through the California FAIR Plan.

Prior to this change, insurance companies could choose where to offer coverage, and many avoided areas prone to wildfires. This left an increasing number of residents relying on the FAIR (Fair Access to Insurance Requirements) Plan. The new regulations, pioneered by California Insurance Commissioner Ricardo Lara, provide incentives for insurance companies to offer coverage more broadly throughout the state.

The main incentive allows insurance companies to set higher rates for individual policies based on forward-looking wildfire risk models. To do so, however, they must meet several requirements. One of the most notable is that insurers must offer policies in designated "wildfire-distressed areas." Oakmont Village is not currently classified as a wildfire-distressed area under state guidelines, though classifications are periodically reviewed and updated.

Another key requirement is that insurance companies offer discounts for certain Firewise measures taken by both communities and individual policyholders to reduce wildfire risk. Our community's Firewise USA Certification is one mitigating factor that may qualify policyholders for insurer-offered discounts on policies with rates based on a wildfire risk model.

State guidelines also require insurers to offer individual discounts for certain defensible space and home-hardening efforts under California's "Safer from Wildfires" initiative, though availability and application may vary by insurer.

The Oakmont Village Firewise Task Force offers educational Firewise assessments to help residents identify measures that can improve their homes' wildfire defenses. To request a free Firewise assessment, send an email with your name, address, and phone number to firewise@oakmontvillage.com.

More information about eligible discounts under California's Safer from Wildfires initiative is available on the California Department of Insurance website.

Additional information about California's Sustainable Insurance Strategy, including provisions not covered here, is also available on the department's website.



Quality Bathroom Remodels for Easier Living in Oakmont



We recently completed a bathroom remodel here in the Oakmont community.

We specialize in turning bathtubs into safe, easy-access showers featuring:

- ✓ Custom Walk-In Showers
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- ✓ Low & No-Barrier Entries
- ✓ Handheld Showerheads

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Eloise Tweeten, Founder
Oakmont resident since 2012

OVA Board of Directors: Candidates' Statements

In Random Order



GREG DARCY

Hello, my name is Greg Darcy. I'm the owner of Darcy's Fine Jewelers in Santa Rosa at 50 Old Courthouse Square, Suite 301. I've been serving Sonoma County residents since 2009. I'm also a resident in the Oakmont community, residing at 6608 Fairfield Drive.

I've been a Bay area resident my whole life, working and playing as far south as San Jose and as far north as Santa Rosa. I'm a very hard-working person who cares about being the best I can be to whomever I encounter. I am highly motivated to get the job done right, which has made me very successful in business and life.

Some positive traits I have are honesty, hardworking, the willingness to listen to people, no matter the subject. I'm also willing to admit when I'm wrong. My wife loves that one! I like most all sports, wanting to participate as well. I enjoy cooking and surrounding myself with family and friends.

I'll look forward to helping all my fellow Oakmont residents have the best experience while living in the community.

I can be reached by e-mail at Greg@Darcysfinejewelers.com or on my cell phone (707) 799-0552.



HEIDI KLYN

I have lived in Oakmont since 2007, first part time then full time from 2011. I am a second generation Oakmonter for my parents retired here in 1998. I retired from being an Optician growing several practices, raised two children and worked in my husband's manufacturing company working with research and development for new innovations with many well known companies.

I have served on the OVA board three terms since 2018, as Vice President and President in 2024. I am running again for I have the experience and feel some projects need to be accomplished. I helped purchase our two golf courses, solar panels, the diesel back-up generator. Helped with modernizing the East Rec, and West Rec water damage.

I started the first ever Vaccine Clinics in Oakmont bringing in hard to get Covid shots during the pandemic. When there were outbreaks, I had our County Health Department bring in portable testing stations and we traced the sources, we gave out free testing kits often. July of 2022 I was honored in the *Press Democrat* with the "North Bay Spirit Award" for having everyone's back during the pandemic and other feats with the title of "Boomer to the Rescue."

I helped to get the dog park, brought in the Peanuts statues for Charles Schultz played our courses weekly. I was on the first Berger Ad Hoc Committee, did refresh the building, help start the Cannabis Club, President of the Boomers Club, Vice President of the Asian Pacific Heritage Club.

I feel I am a candidate who listens to the community not what one or two people desire but the majority. Since I am active here, I see the many needs that

need to be implemented. Effective leadership is not about making speeches or being liked. Leadership is defined by results not attributes.



JOSH AXELROD

Hello Oakmonters! I moved to Oakmont in 2021 to be closer to my three daughters and discovered what a wonderful community this is. I've made some great friends and enjoy walking through our beautiful surroundings, which continually remind me how fortunate we are to live here.

I began my career as a high school math teacher and later transitioned into a career in technology. Over the years, I have worked at several startup companies and concluded my career at Microsoft. These experiences strengthened my abilities in working with teams, strategic planning, budgeting, and managing complex projects—skills well-suited to the responsibilities of our current OVA HOA Board.

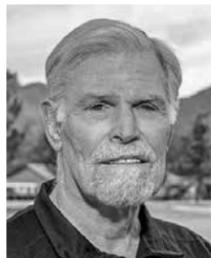
Since moving to Oakmont, I have been actively involved in Oakmont Lifelong Learning, the Long-Range Planning Committee, and the Governing Documents Committee. I have been fortunate to work with great team members and I am proud of the work we have achieved thus far.

As homeowners and investors, we are jointly responsible for keeping Oakmont and its facilities desirable and well-maintained. I will work to modernize aging facilities with reasonable spending and community priorities in mind. In this planning and execution, we should look out 3-5 years to continue move in a clear and consistent direction.

I believe all OVA Board projects should have clearly defined goals with deliverable dates, measurable outcomes and, regular progress updates shared with the community. I will work to publish a "scoreboard" that would be easily accessible through print and electronic channels.

As a member of the Board I would encourage all discussions to be open to the public and keep executive sessions to only topics required by law. Transparency and accountability build trust and fosters engagement.

I would be honored to serve on the OVA Board to help Oakmont continue to thrive in the coming years.



MATT OLIVER

As President of the OVA, I am seeking re-election to the 2026 Oakmont Board of Directors. I believe our community is in an extraordinary time where our board must make strategic decisions that benefit all of Oakmont.

I have kept my promise to avoid wasteful spending and I will continue to facilitate open discussions, respect different points of view and promote collaboration and community engagement.

I'm committed to the financial stability of Oakmont and I will continue to work to keep Oakmont a

desirable and affordable active adult community.

Across the community, members are focusing on the board's direction for the Central Complex area. The process of prioritizing initiatives must continue, and in the past year I have begun to lead the evaluation of the widely discussed Central Complex options and how to effectively marshal our financial resources in a timeframe that makes sense.

Another key initiative is updating our Bylaws and CC&Rs, a process started this past year. By evaluating outdated provisions, this work will ensure compliance with state laws, reduce risk and increase our efficiency.

As a continuing OVA director, I will rely on my board experience as well as my professional business background and skills to bring sound judgment to the planning, design and engineering process for Central Complex projects.

I believe my record will contribute to responsible decisions, and outcomes that are best for all of Oakmont—today and in the future.

Respecting community members and understanding their different perspectives will guide my service commitment. I believe working collaboratively with other Board Members, our volunteer committees and the community at large is vitally important to reach our goals.

I will strive to govern with transparency and be certain our members are informed and that our processes are transparent.

I ask for your vote.



STEVE SPANIER

I love Oakmont. And I'm proud to say that I also love many Oakmont residents. Thanks to all of you, and despite seemingly continual turmoil in the outside world, my thirteen or so years here have been the most rewarding and joyful of my life.

We're a wonderfully invigorating and supportive community that has not just survived but thrived for more than six decades. And we all seem to know it. I could not even begin to count the number of people who have earnestly and sincerely told me that they feel incredibly fortunate to live here. My sentiments exactly.

This will be my third OVA election and I'm hoping for similar results as in the first two because I really want to serve. I want to give back to the community that has given my wife and I so much. I want to help continue the legacy of so many Oakmont volunteers down through the years who have donated their time and energy to making this community the very best it can be.

As before, I stand for experience, balance and thoughtfulness. If elected, I promise fiscal moderation, communication and transparency. I promise to lift people up rather than tear them down. I promise to demonstrate and promote kindness and discourage unkindness at all times. I promise to work with you, the board and our staff to thoroughly research and then address our issues to preserve all that is good about our home and avoid all that would harm us.

It would be a privilege and honor to serve you again, so I humbly ask for your vote.

For more information on my qualifications, platform and policy ideas, please visit my website at spanier4ova.org. Thank you!

Continued on next page

Continued from previous page



TERRIE MUI

Hi, I am running for the OVA Board of Directors because I am deeply committed to Oakmont and bring proven experience in leadership, finance, and collaboration. I can represent the interests of all Oakmont residents.

My husband and I chose Oakmont for its lively, engaged community—friendly, forward-looking neighbors who are active in everything from gardening to pickleball and the arts. The strong interest residents show in the wider world is a core value I share. I support thoughtful long-range planning, careful stewardship of this special place, and sound fiscal management.

In my career managing communication satellite engineering teams, I developed complex systems that had to perform reliably for many years. I listened closely to understand customers' needs and worked collaboratively to reach timely, practical decisions. Through this work, I built effective teams, set priorities, managed large budgets, and achieved consensus. I managed those budgets with the discipline of a small business owner.

I also volunteered for 20 years with the Project Management Institute in Silicon Valley and served 2 years as President and 8 years as a board member. Our all-volunteer organization delivered 200 events a year for 2,200 members—experience closely aligned with a volunteer-driven community like Oakmont.

Here in Oakmont, I continue to serve as a board officer of the Oakmont Lifelong Learning and Asian Pacific Club, and previously through the Future Club. I understand how vital volunteers are and how to balance costs with benefits while anticipating future needs.

Our facilities are our shared investments. I am committed to helping Oakmont move forward responsibly, with both current residents and future homeowners in mind. I would be honored to serve you on the OVA Board.

For more information on my background, please see Terrie4Oakmont.com. Thank you for your consideration and your vote.

SESR UPDATE Continued from page 1

The City of Santa Rosa website has a lot more information about SESR on their website at www.srcity.org/2568/Elnoka-Senior-Community.

The board recognizes there are and always will be shared concerns about another development along the Sonoma Highway corridor. Our wildlands are prone to fire. Traffic increases daily, and it takes an extended time to evacuate during emergencies. And still, California and Santa Rosa are determined to build more housing, which means, if it's not this development, another may take its place—and it may not have the benefits we've worked so hard to gain.

Our community has achieved much in our collaboration with Burbank Housing and the City of Santa Rosa. As we continue holding Burbank to the agreements that have been made, we don't want to risk throwing away the concessions we've won.



■Khiana Schmuhl,
General Manager, Valley of the Moon Club

Valley of the Moon Club and OAK Restaurant have a full calendar of events and specials coming up this February and March, along with ongoing dining and golf offerings for members and guests.

On February 20, golfers can take advantage of a Range Card Sale, receiving \$50 off a range card for one day only.

Those interested in improving their game can learn more about golf lessons by visiting www.playvom.com/golf/instruction.

Throughout February, enjoy our February Golf Special. Simply bring in your golf round receipt and receive a complimentary select beer with the purchase of an entrée. This offer is valid all month and must be redeemed on the same day as play.

PAINT NIGHT AT OAK

February 20, 5–7 p.m.: "Sun and Sea"
March 6, 5–7 p.m.: "Flowers in the Meadow"
Cost: \$45 per person

Join us for one or both evenings of creativity and connection. No painting experience is required—a friendly instructor will guide you every step of the way. Dinner and appetizers will be available for purchase throughout the evening, and wine is available by the glass or bottle. Doors open at 4:30 p.m. to allow time to check in and get settled. All art supplies are included. Please note that no complimentary food or wine is included with your ticket.

Sign up for either event at paintedcellarssoco.com.

NEW MENU AT OAK RESTAURANT

OAK Restaurant has launched a new menu. Learn more at www.playvom.com/the-club/dining.

LIVE MUSIC AT OAK

February 23: Highway 12 Band
March 16: Coffey Park Band
March 30: Relish Band

A \$10 cash cover charge applies at the door. To reserve a table, call (707) 539-0415 ext. 2 or email mmangano@playvom.com.

FEBRUARY ALL-DAY SPECIALS

Thursday, February 19: Orange Chicken served with steamed rice and broccoli, \$21.
Thursday, February 26: Super Nachos with shredded chicken, black beans, pico de gallo, black olives, jalapeño, lime sour cream, guacamole, nacho cheese, cilantro, \$21.

**RESTAURANT WEEK AT THE OAK
FEBRUARY 23–MARCH 1**

Join us for Restaurant Week and enjoy our featured two-course lunch special for \$25.

Choose between a French dip or poke salad for your entrée, followed by cheesecake or flourless chocolate cake for dessert.

FRIENDLY REMINDERS

For safety reasons, please refrain from fishing in any golf course ponds. We also ask everyone to follow posted golf course walking hours, which can be found on our website at playvom.com. Walking policies are available at www.playvom.com/the-club/walking-policies.

CONTACT INFORMATION

General Manager: Khiana Schmuhl, kschmuhl@playvom.com
Golf Course Superintendent: Andy Tittle, atittle@playvom.com
Head Golf Professional: James Perkins, jperkins@playvom.com
Food and Beverage Director: Marisa Mangano, mmangano@playvom.com

**Emergency Communications
Seeking New Volunteers**

■Tom Pugliese, OECTF

Oakmont Emergency Communications Task Force (OECTF) is actively seeking to recruit Oakmont residents to join our network of neighborhood radio Zone Communicators.

The OECTF provides access to City and County first responder support when normal communications (911, cell, internet) are either down or overloaded during an emergency such as an earthquake. Volunteers residing in the neighborhoods, carrying low power 2-way radios, request assistance through our radio network that has direct access to the County Emergency Operations Center and REDCOM. Updates from official sources are also shared with residents through our radio network.

Unfortunately, even with 120+ active volunteers, only around 50% of the Oakmont neighborhoods have radio coverage. Zone communicators can easily share and relay information to provide rapid damage and injury assessments within and between neighborhoods. If you are one of the growing number of people with a satellite equipped cell phone or satellite communicator, by having a radio you become a valuable resource in your neighborhood for texting 911.

The time commitment is minimal. A monthly radio check to practice protocol, share information and verify equipment function takes 15 minutes or less. Twice annually we conduct a communications drill to exercise our network, practice message preparation and handling and reinforce our radio protocol.

We also have an annual social event (happy hour style) where you can meet and socialize with other radio volunteers.

Anyone interested in learning more about our team can contact us at OakmontW6OVA@gmail.com.





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Oakmont Art Association

■Linda O'Connor

A BRIEF HISTORY OF THE OAKMONT ART ASSOCIATION

Founded approximately 50 years ago, the Oakmont Art Association (OAA) is believed to be the oldest organized club in the Oakmont community. In its earliest years, the Association functioned informally, with few written records. Documentation of the OAA begins appearing regularly in the *Oakmont News* in the mid-1990s. Despite this limited early record, the Association has long maintained an active and visible presence within Oakmont.

Since its inception, the OAA has supported and celebrated the arts through a wide range of activities. These include regional bus trips to museums and gardens; monthly presentations, demonstrations, and workshops open to the community; fundraising events benefiting local charities and foundations; and an annual art show highlighting the diverse talents of Oakmont residents. The Association has consistently nurtured creativity by providing funding, instruction, and welcoming venues for artists of all experience levels.

The OAA has also extended its mission beyond Oakmont by supporting arts education in local high schools and at Santa Rosa Junior College through scholarships and foundation awards. From approximately 2007 to 2013, the Oakmont Art Scholarship Fund awarded \$13,000 to fourteen student recipients. Today, the Association continues this tradition through annual donations to ArtQuest, a Santa Rosa High School-sponsored program.

Oakmont has long been home to artists working in a wide variety of media, including painting, photography, quilting, ceramics, sculpture, textile arts, and even Ikebana flower arranging. These disciplines have been showcased through annual art shows, Open Studios events, monthly ArtShare gatherings, and rotating exhibitions throughout Oakmont community buildings. Currently, members are encouraged to display their work in the OAK restaurant foyer and the CAC Card Room.

The Association also maintains a resource library in the CAC Art Room, featuring books and DVDs donated by Christopher Schink, an internationally recognized watercolorist and educator. Complementing this collection, the OAA website serves as a central hub for news, programs, and community connections.

Oakmont Ukesters



■Rebecca Gilbert

LEARN TO PLAY UKULELE

The Ukesters of Oakmont is offering a six-week course to any Oakmont resident. This is a great opportunity for you to learn to play the ukulele and sing along as an added bonus. The ukulele is one of the most popular instruments in America and easy to learn.

It is also great for seniors for these 10 reasons: 1) Improves hand-eye coordination, 2) Reduces stress, 3) Boosts brain function, 4) Promotes social connection, 5) Enhances creativity, 6) Boosts mood and self-esteem, 7) Offers a low-cost hobby, 8) Can be done anywhere, 9) Fosters a lifelong love of music, 10) Improves self-discipline.

The added benefit following class participation is to become involved with Ukesters weekly practice sessions and occasional performances at Oakmont Gardens and other social events such as Grandparents' Week.

WHEN: Fridays, March 6, 13, 20, 27, April 3, and 10
TIME: 10-11 a.m.

LOCATION: OVA Suite B

COST: \$5 for printed materials

WHAT TO BRING: Ukulele, tuner and music stand

CONTACT: Rebecca Gilbert, (949) 887-0925

Bocce Club



■Deb Ponts

2026 CLUB CHANGES

Official play dates for Bocce Club members are Tuesday, Thursday, Friday and Saturday at 1 p.m. at the West courts. Bocce lessons are on the first Tuesday of the month at 1 p.m. The club sponsors a monthly tournament, several happy hours at the courts and picnics throughout the year, as well as an annual Christmas celebration. The next tournament is Saturday, Feb. 14, 1 p.m.

Bocce is a great way to make new friends and enjoy a low impact sport. If you are interested in joining, annual dues are \$25. With your membership, you will receive the code to access the Bocce equipment. Applications for membership are at the OVA office. We accept cash or a check payable to our treasurer, Tony Sarram.

Club members or Oakmont residents can reserve one court during times not reserved for regular member play times thru Bob Swift, 707-548-5409.

Pickleball Corner



■Peter Copen

WHY DO WE MISS THE "EASY" SHOTS?

Your partner sets up the point, the ball floats in, and your brain goes, "Finally—free point." And then... you miss it. Or you pop it up. Or you "finish" it right into a waiting paddle.

Here's the truth that makes this problem solvable: most "easy-shot" misses aren't caused by bad technique. They're caused by small breakdowns in timing, vision, footwork, or decision-making—right when players stop respecting the ball. That's why these misses feel so frustrating. You know you can hit the shot. You just didn't—this time. Let's examine a few reasons or why this happens, and what actually fixes it.



Cartoon by Peter Copen.

In pickleball, "easy" usually means: "easy" shifts your brain from execution to outcome. Instead of thinking contact, balance, shape, you think winner. Eyes lift early. Feet stop adjusting. The swing grows just a little too big. That mental shift—not the ball—is where the error begins.

The #1 Cause of Easy Shot Misses: Looking Away Too Soon. A huge percentage of easy misses come down to vision—not in the medical sense, but in eye behavior. This is especially common on put-aways and volleys, where the desire to finish is strongest.

Practical fix: instead of "watch the ball," keep your chin down until you hear contact.

You won't truly see contact at speed—but staying down long enough prevents early eye lift. Players who miss long are often peeking early and adding pace they don't need. Players who miss into the net are usually upright, contacting too low, or swinging flat.

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: <https://oakmontpickleballclub.com>.

Café Mortel



■Linda Suhr

MERP, AHCDW/HEART, FEN IN OAKMONT

What are all these acronyms and what do they have to do with Café Mortel? They represent upcoming events of interest sponsored by Café Mortel for well-prepared seniors who proactively plan for the end of life so they may live with joy now!

MERP: Donate your new or gently used medical equipment and supplies to Medical Equipment Recycling Program (MERP) at the Oakmont Farmers Market on second Saturdays. We accept wheelchairs, walkers with seats, adult diapers and more! We're sorry but we cannot accept crutches, aluminum walkers, used commodes, CPAP or ostomy supplies. Come on Saturday, Feb. 14, from 9 a.m. to 12 p.m. Volunteers needed! Info: linda@autumnoflifeplanning.com.

AHCDw/Heart: In this four-part workshop called Advance Health Care Directives with Heart led by yours truly, we'll explore what really matters in life and priorities for care during serious illness and dementia as well as wishes for after death care and disposition. We'll learn about available options and how to make informed choices unique to you! The dates are Thursdays, March 5, 19, April 2, 16 from 2:30-4:30 p.m. in Oakmont. This workshop has a suggested donation of \$125 and is limited to 12 attendees. For more information, registration and location, contact me at linda@autumnoflifeplanning.com.

FEN—More Than Just an Advance Directive: Planning for End-of-Life Autonomy. Save the date, May 4, to join Final Exit Network for a 3-hour in-person workshop on keeping your options open at the end of life. Areas covered will be documentation and communication strategies for having your wishes honored, building a support network and pathways for a chosen death. There is no charge. Send an inquiry to workshop@FinalExitNetwork.org for times, location and registration info.

To be added to the Café Mortel email list, contact me at linda@autumnoflifeplanning.com.

Valley of the Moon Rotary Club



■Star Power

HAPPY VALENTINE'S DAY!

Spring is almost here - the birds are twitterpated and flowers are blooming. A lovely time to live in Oakmont. And I hope your hearts are all filled with love - a love for your neighbors and friends, those close to you and for the world we live in, albeit a world full of strife and hate at the moment. Rotary clubs around the world are trying their best to do something about that.

Rotary Club is part of a global network of over 1.4 million neighbors, friends, leaders, and problem-solvers in 46,000+ clubs who unite to create lasting change in communities and worldwide. Dedicated to service, fellowship, diversity, and integrity, members address causes like fighting disease, providing clean water, and supporting education.

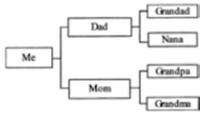
Valley of the Moon Rotary, in particular, raises money from their yearly fundraiser, a crab feed, to reach out to help non-profits in, not just here in Oakmont, but throughout Sonoma County, and across the globe.

As you may have heard, VOM Rotary is having their annual fundraiser Crab Feed on Saturday, February 28. It's already sold out with a wait list. It's important for those attending and feasting on the delicious, sweet, locally-caught crab to know that this is not just a social affair, but a chance for you to join in and help the many causes that we all find important to us.

So, eat, drink, be merry, and bring your credit card! We love you.

Genealogy Club

■George McKinney



YOU'RE RETIRED—IT'S TIME TO START YOUR FAMILY HISTORY RESEARCH

This meeting will be on Feb. 23 at 1 p.m. in East Rec. and on Zoom (see below for Zoom links).

As we've retired, many of us have decided it's time to work on our family history. The intention of this meeting is to help you get started. We'll talk about what family history research might mean for you—for many of us it's about understanding the people who came before you, what their lives were like. Where did they live? Did they move—if so, why? What's the historic context?

And don't forget that this is your chance to memorialize the photos you have of the family. After all, you're the best person to understand each photo—who is in it, where was it taken, and when.

It can be a hands-on session. If you bring your laptop, you can explore your family. If you want to do this, email us at oakmontancestry@gmail.com for some suggestions.

Join us as we learn about our families and their history.

If you want to join by Zoom, Meeting ID: 862 2760 9536; Passcode: 030213.

Wii Bowling Oakmont Lanes



■Terry Leuthner

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

Anyone interested in joining our club, either as a team bowler or substitute, please call me at (707) 291-3023 or stop by the East Recreation Center on Tuesdays from 2–3:30 p.m. (no bowling fourth Tuesdays) to see us in action. We charge \$25 for a 10-week Tournament that includes the play-offs. 2 p.m. League: 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 setup at 1 p.m. and tear down equipment at 3:30 p.m.

Bowling date for February: Feb. 17. No bowling Feb. 24 (fourth Tuesday).

Bowling dates for March: Mar. 3 (week #7), 10 (week #8), 17 (week #9 St. Patrick's Day Challenge), 31 (week #10 Final Winter League). No bowling Mar. 24 (fourth Tuesday).

RESULTS AS OF FEBRUARY 3 (WEEK #4 WINTER LEAGUE)

Results are: first place, 4 Tops; second place tie, Alley Oops and High Rollers; fourth place tie, Pocket Hits and On Strike; sixth place tie, Wii Four and King Pins; eighth place, Strikers.

Men's High Games: Charlie Ensley, 287; Glenn Hewitt, 246; Scott Harris, 239, Gordon Freedman, 235; Don Shelhart, 209; Rob Warren, 200.

Women's High Games: Joanne Abrams, 300; Sandy Osheroff, 279; Peggy Ensley, 236; Valerie Hulsey, 236; Joanne Bender, 233; Carolita Carr, 211; Barbara Koch, 208.

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 on the fun.

Jazz Club Concerts

■Dolora Hurst

A VALENTINE'S CONCERT

Imagine five of today's top musicians playing together in Oakmont. We are extremely fortunate to be able to enjoy a concert like this on Feb. 14, 7 p.m. on the Berger stage.



Sylvia Cuenca.

Something very special about this concert is the drummer, Sylvia Cuenca, a world-famous musician, who is one of the most respected female drummers in jazz. If you have never heard a drummer play with a mellow tone, it is remarkably beautiful.

Grammy Award singer Jamie Davis has just finished recording his new CD and has included several new pieces that are exciting. His new recording of "Windmills of Your Mind" is gorgeous.



Jamie Davis.

Pianist Jim Martinez was in charge of the Piano Department for the world-famous Steinway Piano Company. That piano company has been the number one piano company in the world for as long as it has been in existence. Imagine the knowledge and ability required to hold such a position with a company of that stature.

Our genius saxophone player Michael O'Neill is known for his arranging ability as well as his knowledge of production, and has worked with films, TV programs, concerts, and many artists seeking help. He is truly the "go-to" man for musicians everywhere. You have probably heard his work many times without realizing his involvement.

Our bass player for this concert is a truly beloved musician. Chris Amberger was a mainstay in North Beach in San Francisco. He is the person all the famous musicians playing shows in San Francisco ask to accompany them when they need a bass player. It would be difficult to find a musician better known in the Bay Area. Local musicians love him as well. If he had not retired, he would probably still be playing every night in a famous bar in that musical mecca of jazz musicians. If you were one of his admirers in the jazz world in San Francisco, come say hello.

WHEN: Saturday, February 14, 7 p.m. (doors open at 6:30 p.m.)

WHERE: Berger Auditorium

TICKETS: \$45. Make checks payable to the Oakmont Jazz Club and deposit them in the OVA Office file.

Drinks and snacks permitted.



Pet Grooming

6574 Oakmont Drive, Suite C

For Appointments Call:

707-535-6097 or 707-843-4007

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 \$2 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 or call (707) 758-9739.

Oakmont Technology Learning Center (OTLC)

■Linda Canar

OTLC CLASS REGISTRATION IS OPEN

Registration for classes at the Oakmont Technology Learning Center is now open for our 2026 Spring Session. To see what classes are available and/or register for a class, go to our website at <https://www.oakmonttlc.org>.

To see what classes will be offered this spring, select "Classes" from the menu and browse through the listing of classes. When you find a class that you like, click on the "Details" button and read all the information about this particular class. Use the "Book Now" button to sign up for this class. You will need to enter your credit card information to confirm your participation and complete the checkout process. If you encounter any problems registering, please contact Peggy Clark at (650) 274-4137 or pegnrod@icloud.com.

Some of classes being offered this session include:

- Apple Watch Basics: learn how to use many of the features of your watch.
- Travel Planning on your iPhone: learn about some of the latest apps that will help you plan and stay safe while traveling.
- Using AI Chat to Make Life Easier: solve day to day problems using AI.
- Exploring your iPhone or Android phone: learn the basics and more on what your phone can do.
- Free County Library Resources: learn about all the free online information (including books, magazines, websites) that is available with your library card.
- Intro to Mac: learn basic Mac operation and commonly used programs.
- Windows 11: Learn the basics of the newest Windows operating system.

There are more classes available on the website and if you don't see a class you're looking for, please check back as we will be adding more classes throughout the next couple of months.

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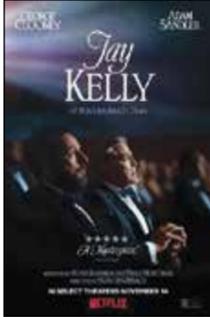
Movies At Oakmont



WHERE: Berger Center
SCREENING DAY AND TIME: Sundays at 2 p.m.
HOSTS: Mike McInnis, Deborah Davidson, Jeff Neuman and Barbara Marquardt.
NOTE: All films are shown with English subtitles, when possible, free of charge—compliments of the OVA.

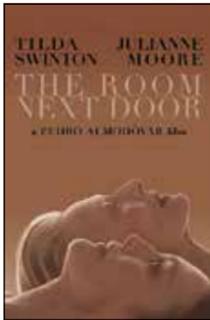
FEBRUARY 15: JAY KELLY

Famous movie actor Jay Kelly embarks on a journey of self-discovery, confronting his past and present with his devoted manager Ron. Poignant and humor-filled, pitched at the intersection of regrets and glories. 2025, R, 2:12.



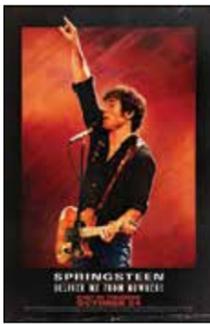
FEBRUARY 22: THE ROOM NEXT DOOR

Ingrid and Martha were close friends in their youth, when they worked together at the same magazine. After years of being out of touch, they meet again in an extreme but strangely sweet situation. 2024, PG-13, 1:47.



MARCH 1: SPRINGSTEEN: DELIVER ME FROM NOWHERE

Bruce Springsteen's journey crafting his 1982 album Nebraska, which emerged as he recorded Born in the USA with the E Street Band. Based on Warren Zanes' book. 2025, PG-13, 1:59.



Oakmont Democratic Club



■Ida Engli

PLANNING FOR 2026 ELECTIONS

The Oakmont Democratic Club is presently planning its agenda for the 2026 elections, inviting all interested to offer ideas and suggestions that reflect what Oakmonters want to see happen throughout this election cycle. The club invites residents to its open meetings, and to consider helping with the planning and implementation of meetings, fundraisers, and political actions that will help decide 2026 election results, both locally, statewide, and nationally. See below and oakmontdemocraticalliance.org for more information.

In January the club sponsored Fred Glass who educated Oakmonters about fascism with his presentation, "American Fascism Today." Glass stayed late to answer the many questions from his large audience. At the February 9 meeting Jennielynn Holmes, CEO of Catholic Charities of Northwest California, a local authority on local and national homelessness, updated her audience on the issue, "ICE, Immigration and Homelessness in Sonoma County."

The next speaker will be on March 9 at 6:30 p.m. at the East Rec. The April 13 speaker, at East Rec. will be the current Santa Rosa mayor, Mark Stapp, who was so well received recently at the Sunday Oakmont Symposium. Check oakmontdemocraticalliance.org for details.

Next Oakmont Democratic Alliance Social: February 26 (fourth Thursday of month), East Rec., 6:30 p.m. Social, 7-8:30 Attendees will discuss "Our Political Stories."

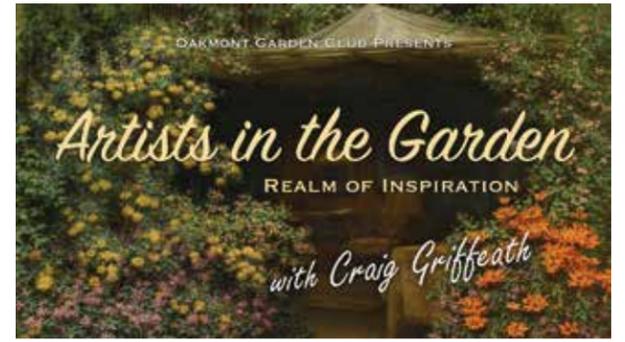
Next Oakmont Democratic Alliance Speaker Evening: March 9, socializing at 6:30 p.m. Presentation and Q & A beginning at 7 p.m., East Rec.

Much more at oakmontdemocraticalliance.org.

Oakmont Garden Club



■Patty McHugh



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

WHERE: East Rec., 7902 Oakmont Drive

SPEAKER: Craig Griffeath, Art Historian

Join local art historian Craig Griffeath on a panoramic tour of inspiring gardens, as brought to life by some of history's greatest artists. From the Egypt of the Pharaohs and the villas of Pompeii to the glories of Versailles and the classic Landscape Gardens of the English Enlightenment, we'll see how the social role of gardens evolved and flourished through the centuries.

We'll look into the gardens of the Impressionist painters Pissarro and Monet, the rise of the American Garden Movement, the role of Victory Gardens in the patriotic messaging of the Second World War, and on to the Modern Art garden retreats of Frida Kahlo and Peggy Guggenheim.

Don't miss this unique and dazzling survey of how gardens have helped to shape the story of art. This is sure to be inspiration to all us gardeners and garden lovers. We look forward to a large attendance!

Plan days they'll love & time to *recharge.*

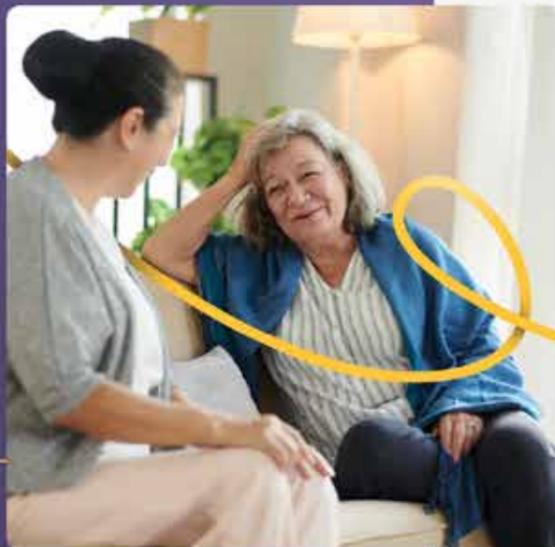
Today & Together is a day program for older adults, including those with dementia or care needs—opening in Sonoma, early 2026.

Today & Together

To schedule an assessment or sign up to volunteer, please contact:

Christina Gonzalez
 cgonzalez@todayandtogether.org

17000 Arnold Dr. | Sonoma, CA 95476



Full-Day Support

Inclusive, High-Quality Care

Small-Group, Personalized Activities

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Safe, Scenic Setting

Learn More At

todayandtogether.org



*Note: The program is applying for a license from the California Department of Social Services. Until the license is received, the program cannot accept Participants and process assessments.

Let's Dance—Together!

■ Terry Whitten

LEARN TO DANCE CHA CHA IN MARCH

WHAT: Beginning Cha Cha Partner Dance Classes
WHEN: Wednesdays March 4, 11, 18 and 25
TIME: 4–5:15 p.m. **WHERE:** Lower West Rec.
COST: \$10 pp for 2 or more classes purchased at same time; \$12 pp for single class
RSVP: Please contact instructor, Terry Whitten to register in advance at twritten@pacbell.net or call (415) 265-7590. Class size may be limited

Cha Cha is an upbeat and lively partner dance that grew out of the Mambo from Cuba in the 1950's. Besides Latin songs, there are also a lot of contemporary pop songs that have a Cha Cha beat

including songs by Santana, Earth Wind and Fire, Madonna and Lady Gaga.

No partners or experience are required. We will rotate partners during the classes, although rotating is optional. Classes will meet for 4 sessions to learn the most basic steps. If you can't make it to all 4 classes, it is at least best to come to the first 2 classes since each week after the first will build on the material taught in the 1st week. Also, any ladies that want to lead and any men that want to follow are very welcome.



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

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

Music at Oakmont



■ Judy Walker



ENSEMBLE SCHUMANN MAKES THEIR OAKMONT DEBUT

Here is some advance information regarding our next concert scheduled for March 12. It seems we had a winning formula for our January event—at least measured in terms of audience attendance and response. It was so gratifying to see the hall so full and it would be wonderful if this were the start of a new trend.

Since our March session includes some of the same elements—unusual combination of instruments, an appealing program of somewhat shorter pieces including well-known and lesser heard works, all performed by excellent artists—I'm optimistic that we can again welcome a great audience for an afternoon of delightful music.

We are very pleased to welcome Ensemble Schumann which will be making its Oakmont debut. The trio consists of oboe, viola and piano—not a standard grouping, but I've discovered a surprising number of compositions specifically written for this combination, some of which will be performed at this event. The program includes music by Mozart and Schumann as well as works by composers you may be unfamiliar with. I will be providing more information on the program, the music and the composers, in a subsequent article.

Meanwhile, please save the date and visit our website for up-to-date information: <http://www.musicatoakmont.org>.

Best wishes and Happy Valentine's Day!

WHEN: Thursday, March 12 at 1:30 p.m.

WHERE: Berger Center, Oakmont

ADMISSION: \$35 (cash or check only), or with Season Pass



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Hikers

■Scott Finn

FEBRUARY 19: LONG HIKE LAWSON TRAIL RETURN BY 2 PONDS

The newest trail to open at Hood Mountain Regional Park is the Lawson Trail, which offers several great vista points of the Sonoma Valley, the Napa Hills, and San Francisco Bay and San Pablo Bay. The Lawson Trail can be reached by following the Lower Johnson Ridge Trail from the Pythian Road parking lot.



Merganser Pond at Hood Mountain Park.

The Lawson Trail extends approximately 2 miles to a picnic area at 1830 feet. The picnic area has a table and great views in all directions. The lower part of the trail is covered, but the upper section is rugged and exposed. The Lawson Trail is named after the Lawson family, who owned property and a gas station at the corner of Hwy. 12 and Melita Road, known as Lawson's Corner.

Bring lunch, water, and hiking poles if needed. We'll explore newly acquired property just beyond the former Lawson land before wandering past 2 ponds as we gradually return to the parking lot. This is a hike of approx. 8 miles with an elevation gain of 1,500 ft. Wear weather appropriate clothing, bring a lunch, liquids and hiking poles if needed.

Depart the Berger lot at 8:30 p.m. Hike leader is Janet McCann, (707) 328-6637.

FEBRUARY 26: SHORT HIKE DORAN BEACH TRAIL

This out and back trail is a beautiful walk along the

beach with picturesque views of Bodega Harbor and the Bodega Head. As this trail is on loose sand, it is not considered wheelchair or stroller friendly, but the Doran Marsh Trail close by is: <https://www.alltrails.com/trail/us/california/doran-marsh-trail>.

Highlights include beautiful beaches, friendly wildlife, and well-marked paths. Challenges include strong afternoon winds and walking during high tide. Starting early and bringing sandals and a towel are recommended. We meet at the end of Doran Beach Rd in the parking lot, near the Jetty Campground. Pay fee or use regional park pass. Toilets nearby.

Directions: take Bodega Bay highway (it ends at a stop sign, turn right onto Bay Hwy. 1. A junction on the left will have signs for Doran Beach, if you miss the first one just about 50 yards there is another entrance which is for the Lodge Bodega Bay.

Western Snowy Plovers, Brown Pelicans, Black Oystercatchers, and numerous shorebirds like Sanderlings, Willets, and Marbled Godwits. The area features tidal flats, ponds, and sandy shores that attract diving ducks, terns, gulls, and raptors such as Peregrine Falcons. Afterwards, if you're interested, we can go to Bodega Head for clam chowder and a crab sandwich! Hike leader is John Tan, jtan8217@gmail.com, (415) 717-2995.

FEBRUARY 26: LONG HIKE ANNADEL WATERFALL AND BEYOND

This hike will follow some of Henry's favorite trails and points of interest in Annadel,



Annadel Meadow with wild flowers.

including the Schultz Waterfall. Henry was our legendary hike leader from the 1990s and early 2000s. The hike will be about 6-7 miles with about 1000 ft. elevation gain.

Bring lunch and water (hiking poles are recommended). Meet at Berger parking lot at 8:30 a.m. Hike leader is Randy Vincent, (707) 538-3530.

Passages



Charles (Charlie) Gresalfi passed away on December 10, 2025 at the age of 96. He came to Oakmont in 1990 with his wife Jean, and was well known as the Oakmont watercolor instructor and previous president of the Oakmont Art Society. He was also involved with the Tennis Club, Chess Club, and Gold Miners Club, and was a regular at Valley of the Moon Church, Playreaders, Movies at Oakmont, live music at the VOM Club, and sketching dogs at Canine Club events.

Charlie is survived by five adult children, six grandchildren and four great grandchildren. A private ceremony was held at Calvary Cemetery.

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

OVER TWO DECADES OF EXCELLENCE IN IN-HOME CARE

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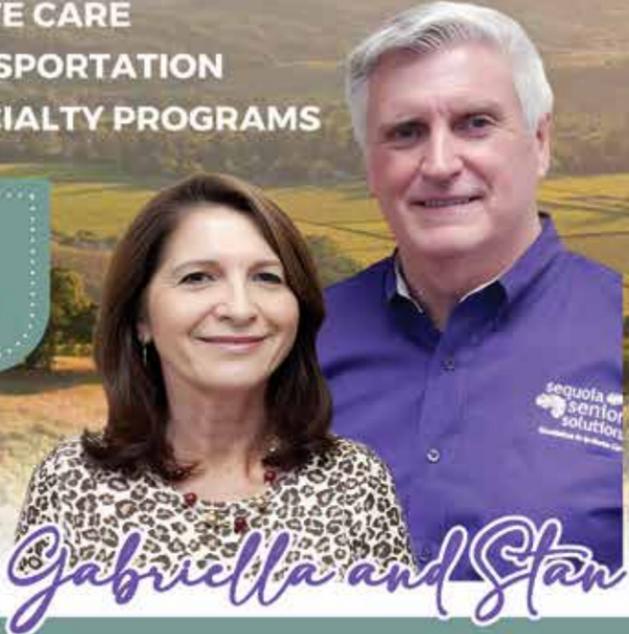
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■Greg Fauss

TRUE LOVE

“True Love is Hard to Find.” So goes the song from Bonnie Raitt. And many of us can attest to its truth.

Valentine’s Day brings love into focus, but it is experienced differently. Some may never have found true love, others are grieving the loss of it, and still others can celebrate it.



There is, however, a place where true love can be easily found, never lost and always celebrated. Saint Paul wrote in chapter eight of his letter to the Romans that nothing can separate us from the love of God. That’s as true today as it was over 1,900 years ago.

It is our hope that all people can know true heavenly love more and more as we pursue reflecting that in our community.

All those longing for true love are invited to our Sunday Worship Services at 10:30 a.m. in the East Rec. Center.

For information about our Wednesday Morning Bible Study, Thursday meetings in Oakmont Gardens, Saturday Prayer meetings, and other gatherings go to <http://www.occsantarosa.org>, write us at occsantarosa@gmail.com or call us at (707) 595-0166.

Asian Pacific Heritage and Culture Club

■Curtis Chong

CONCERT: SHUYING LI, FRANCESCO LECCE-CHONG, SANTA ROSA SYMPHONY MUSICIANS

WHAT: Performance and Presentation by Composer Shuying Li with musicians from the Santa Rosa Symphony and Music Director Francesco Lecce-Chong



Shuying Li.

WHEN: Saturday, March 7, 3 p.m.

WHERE: Berger Center

COSTS: Free to Oakmont Residents

Please join us for this special performance and presentation by one of the most important and prolific composers today, Shuying Li. A string quartet from the Santa Rosa Symphony will perform traditional Chinese folksongs by Zhou Long along with Shuying’s

“Miss Ying-Ning”—a traditional Chinese folktale that she has set to music. Francesco Lecce-Chong, Music Director of the Santa Rosa Symphony, will lead a conversation with the composer about her background, influences and music. They will also preview Shuying’s latest work, “Coping Cadences,” which will be receiving its world premiere by the Santa Rosa Symphony, March 21–23, at the Green Music Center.



Francesco Lecce-Chong.

Shuying Li is originally from China and began her musical training at the Shanghai Conservatory of Music. She holds a master’s and doctoral degree from the University of Michigan and is currently on the faculty at the California State University, Sacramento. Her works have been performed by major orchestras and ensembles including the San Francisco Symphony, Seattle Symphony, and Orpheus Chamber Orchestra. Her works have been performed worldwide including United States, China, Netherlands, Finland, Romania and Italy.

Oakmont Movers and Groovers



■Denise Lindsey

ANTHONY PAULE SOUL ORCHESTRA FEATURING WILLIE JORDAN

Based in San Francisco, California, the Anthony Paule Soul Orchestra was founded in 2007 by guitarist/songwriter Anthony Paule. Inspired by authentic Soul and Blues recordings of the ‘60s and ‘70s, this dramatic, horn-driven, extravagant act took shape. Known for its great, authentic singers, APSO invites the newest member, the incomparable vocalist Willie Jordan, to join the organization.

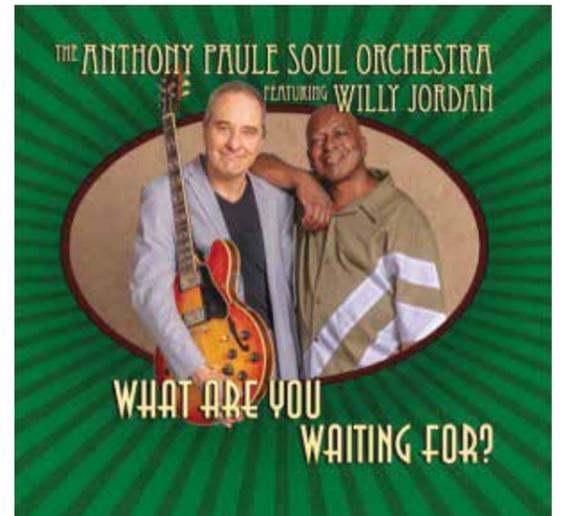
Having worked with Elvin Bishop’s Big Fun Trio (which garnered him two Grammy Award nominations), John Lee Hooker, among others, Willy holds court from a throne previously occupied by Wee Willie Walker, Frank Bey, and Terrie Odabi. Jordan’s commanding vocals and unpretentious stage presence give audiences an honest, fresh, heartfelt experience.

WHEN: Saturday, March 14, 6–9 p.m. (doors open at 5:30 p.m.)

WHERE: Berger Center, 6633 Oakmont Drive

TICKETS: Member \$25, non-member \$30. Tickets will sell out quickly, so register early. Seating is open unless you reserve a table for 8.

Feel free to bring your drinks and snacks to enhance your experience.



Anthony Paule Soul Orchestra.

MEMBERSHIP

Now is the time to renew or join for the first time. Dues are 10 per calendar year. You may pay by cash or check payable to OMG. Drop off at the OVA office in the folder. Each member may bring one guest.

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Oakmont Pétanque Club

■Don McPherson

FRIENDLY PLAY AT AREA CLUBS

Among the most engaging features of Pétanque is that most Pétanque clubs host open, friendly play at least several days a week, welcoming all. Since the required equipment—3 boules and a cochonnet—is easily transported, day trips around the Bay Area can incorporate a game or two with minimal planning.

Santa Rosa: Pétanque La Rose hosts casual play on Tuesday, Thursday, and Sunday beginning at 1:30 p.m. at Bekins Field behind the Santa Rosa YMCA and next to King's Nursery at 1212 13th Street.

Sonoma: Valley of the Moon Pétanque Club has casual play virtually every day from 2 p.m. to dusk at Depot Park, north of the historic plaza and south of Arnold Field between West and East 1st Streets.

Petaluma: Petaluma Valley Pétanque Club's friendly games are on Tuesday, Thursday, and Saturday from 1–3 p.m. at Oak Hill Park, 1 Parkside Terrace Boulevard.

San Rafael: La Pétanque Marinière sponsors open play on Thursday, Saturday, and Sunday from 12:30–4 p.m. at the Pierre Joske Pétanque Park off Armory Drive, Marin Civic Center.

San Francisco: La Boule d'Or plays casual games on Friday, Saturday, and Sunday from 1:30 p.m. at the Golden Gate Park Pétanque Courts off 36th Avenue and Fulton St.

The above times are current hours. Some clubs change casual play times seasonally and some host competitive tournaments on some Saturdays and Sundays. Check the club's website or Facebook page

for current information.

PÉTANQUE IN OAKMONT MONDAY, WEDNESDAY, SATURDAY

Pétanque (pay-tonk), also known as Boules, has been a feature of organized play in Oakmont since the 1980s. The Club, founded as an OVA organization in 1996, encourages interested Oakmonters to come to the courts between Berger and the OVA offices at 9:45 a.m. on the Club Play days of Monday, Wednesday, and Saturday. Club Play days are casual friendly games with teams randomly chosen. The club has boules to lend while you're learning, and you'll be playing right away.



Pétanque Club members gather at 9:45 before casual games begin at 10 on Monday, Wednesday, and Saturday mornings.

Jazz Club Classes

■Michael James

LIVE MUSIC IN MARCH AND APRIL

Our March musician is Jenny Watts. She will be performing for us on Wednesday, March 4 at 2 p.m. Jenny is a talented pianist who has played the piano all of her life. Growing up in Burlingame, CA, she began studying piano at age seven. She studied privately for 10 years and continued perfecting her craft for years.

In 1981 she and her husband moved to Willits where they raised two children and owned and operated a retail nursery for 37 years. During this time, Jenny taught piano for over 30 years, and became an accompanist for many groups and events in Willits. She accompanied the Willits High School Vocal Ensemble for seven years at their concerts and went on to work with local choral directors, accompanying their choirs and students. She played the piano in several musicals including *Grease*, *Oliver* and *Gypsy*.

She enjoys playing classical piano music as well as jazz standards and musical theater numbers. She is now retired and a resident of Oakmont since 2018. Jenny will play a variety of classical and jazz standards and invite the audience to sing a few favorites. I will lead the sing-along.

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WHEN: Wednesday, March 4

TIME: 2–3 p.m. performance, 3–4 p.m. open jam/workshop

WHERE: East Recreation Center

COST: Suggested donation \$5

Our April musician is violin stylist Candace English. She will be presenting a concert on Wednesday, April 1 at 2 p.m. She will be joined by preeminent guitarist Randy Vincent and seasoned improviser/orchestral bassist, Bill Fouty. They will be playing selections from the American Songbook and country and folk tunes by composers such as Duke Ellington, Oscar Levant, Hoagy Carmichael, Willie Nelson, David Grisman and Leon Russell.

Candace English is a longtime Oakmont resident, who has been a classical soprano, actor and theater musician, director of choirs and musicals. She has composed mostly choral music and works for children's theater. Candace is also the facilitator of our Oakmont Grief Support Group. Read more on her websites: candacenatvigenglish.com and candacenenglish.com.

WHEN: Wednesday, April 1 **TIME:** 2 p.m.

WHERE: East Recreation Center

COST: Suggested donation \$10



Jenny Watts.



Candace English.



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Oakmont Health Initiative Free Fitness Classes

■Charlene Bunas

EVERY DAY HAS VALUE

Linda, an Oakmont Health Initiative regular lives life as a great journey. A farm girl who grew up cleaning stalls on the family dairy ranch in Novato, she was surrounded by family. "My grandparents hosted all the holidays, often 40 of us for dinner. These are great memories, especially of Grandpa who tried to be tough and chase us kids out of his vegetable garden."



Linda is serious about exercising.
(Photos by Charlene Bunas)

After College of Marin graduation, Linda worked at Crocker Bank. Marriage and children later led her to pause the rewards of a professional career and begin the wealth of raising a family. She thrived as a "stay at home mom, although being involved with the kids' school activities, serving as PTA president and organizing fundraisers meant I used home more as base and spent countless hours away from that base." She also "followed our son wherever his sports took us."

When mothering responsibilities waned, Linda revitalized her banking and business experience. She and hubby opened and grew a successful fireplace and BBQ distributorship. Marriage survived!

As has Linda. "I have always been an exercise enthusiast: aerobics, jazzercise, Pilates. I played tennis and swam in the family swimming pool." Today she reaps the value of health. "Last January, I took one of our granddaughters (19) to Dubai. They call it a 'vertical city' for good reason: an abundance of extremely tall, unique and beautiful buildings. We visited the Burji Khalifa, world's tallest building and the Burji View, which has the world's highest infinity swimming pool." No, this swimmer did not swim in that pool.

She admits: "It's a great life, and I need to appreciate it while it's actually happening."

Her words are a reminder: "Value at least one thing each day."

Mon., Wed., Fri, 9 a.m. Berger. Zoom: 850 1489 7161/998608.

Meditation

■Joanne Davey

MEDITATING TOGETHER WEEKLY MEDITATION SESSIONS AT CAC

"If one's eyes are always on tomorrows, todays slip by unperceived."—Philip Kapleau

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, Birch Room: 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.

High-Intensity Interval Training

■John Phillips, Fitness Instructor

High-Intensity Interval Training (HIIT) has been shown to be a highly effective workout method. It uses short periods of exercise followed by short rest periods, allowing participants to get an effective workout in a relatively short amount of time. Studies have shown that HIIT can help lower blood pressure and blood sugar, burn calories, support weight loss, promote muscle growth, improve oxygen flow, stimulate metabolism, improve sleep quality, enhance mental health, improve memory, and may also help with osteoporosis.

Below is a testimonial from one of my HIIT students, Melva:

"I have been taking John's class for over 10 years. With the class offered both online and in person, I have been able to maintain a regular three-times-a-week schedule for most of those years. I believe it is because of these classes that I have maintained good balance. I can also get up and down off the floor with no problem, and I have good overall strength.

"Recently, a therapist told me he couldn't believe that I am 75 years old because of my flexibility. I like how I can adapt the classes whenever I want, making them harder or easier just by changing how much weight I use.

"John's classes are good for my health and fun."

If you have any questions regarding this article, or anything fitness-related, please call or text me at (707) 494-9086, email me at wkuout2@aol.com, or stop by the Fitness Center. I conduct orientations every Friday at 10 a.m. (sign-up required), and seminars every Tuesday at 1 p.m. and Thursday at 3 p.m. I hope to see everyone at the center.

Water Fitness



■Valerie Hulsey

As I write this on February 3, I am hopeful Mary will be able to start teaching again on Monday, February 22 at 9:30 a.m. If that changes, I will let you know by email. Everyone is welcome—\$10 drop-in fee.

Julie's friendly Friday water exercise class continues all year round, and starts at 10:10 a.m. every Friday with \$8 drop-in fee. All fitness levels are welcome!

Please note: Water Fitness classes are generally held at the West Rec. Center. However, they will be held at the CAC pool starting Feb. 16 while the West Rec. pool is being resurfaced.

Playreaders



■D. Hall

SISTERS GET ANTSY AT NEXT PLAY READING

With its February offering in the rear-view mirror, Oakmont Playreaders look forward to Star Power's production of *Approaching Lavender* by Julie Beckett Crutcher. The play involves two sisters and a soon-to-be stepsister who obsess over the second marriage of their parents.

Presented on March 2, the cast includes Marcel Coder, Star Power and Margaret Applegate.

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!

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

Progressives Club



■Susan Bercu

SHARING OUR POLITICAL STORIES

The Oakmont Democratic Alliance (ODA) invites you all to the Thursday, February 26, Social Event at the Oakmont East Rec. Center, 6:30 Social, 7-8:30 p.m. Discussion.

You will each be encouraged to share your personal political story in this respectful, friendly setting. Informal round table discussions will be sparked by addressing questions on the topic "Sharing Our Political Stories."

Questions may include your political beliefs, the cultures and experiences that shaped you, your personal political evolution, and your reactions to major changes in our country and the world. You may tell us where you get



your news of current events, how you talk to others about current political issues and how you are, or would like to be, involved in political actions.

The questions are meant to prompt engagement, stimulate conversation, and be fun! Despite being together in community, we may not know each other's stories. We are all here to listen to each other. When we know each other better, we strengthen our combined efforts to preserve our democracy; to insure a better future for everyone.

Please bring finger foods and libations to share for our friendly social hour. You are welcome to Invite your friends and neighbors! ODA (<https://www.oakmontdemocraticalliance.org/>) is the umbrella organization that hosts Oakmont events with the Oakmont Democratic Club and the Progressive Club.

SAVE THE DATE!

The next Progressive Club Speaker event is Monday, March 9, 6:30-8:30 p.m. Speaker and details TBA.

Soroptimist International Oakmont Wine Country



■Denise Bickert

AFTERNOON TEA

Are you looking to escape the winter doldrums? Get out of the weather, and join Soroptimist International of Oakmont Wine Country for our third annual Afternoon Tea.



The Tea will be held Saturday, March 7 at 1 p.m. Enjoy a delectable menu of traditional tea sandwiches, scones, and wonderful desserts while sipping tea or raising a glass of champagne. There will be great raffle prizes and for added fun, a hat contest.

The Tea is our primary fundraiser and the proceeds go to our scholarship program. This month we awarded two scholarships to deserving women in the community. With your support we have been able to provide these grants every year since our club was chartered in 2020. Helping women attain economic empowerment through education and training is a core value of the International Soroptimist organization.

Tickets are \$50 per person. If you would like more information or to purchase tickets, please contact Betz Tyler at betz@betz-tyler.com or (707) 321-8783.

Spirituality Collaborative

■Geoff Canham

SHARE YOUR VIEWS

The Spirituality Collaborative welcomes visitors who are interested in discussing the spiritual life at all our meetings. We follow no particular belief system or practice, and we enjoy hearing a wide range of ideas.

If you value shared reflective conversations, why not join us at one of our upcoming meetings? Our meetings are held in the Birch Room of the CAC,

and we meet every second and fourth Tuesday of the month, at 4 p.m. We invite you to join our discussion and share your views.

For more information, contact Sue Aiken at slaiken5440@gmail.com and/or me at gcanham@cs.com. If you'd like, we can put you on our email list and notify you of upcoming meetings and what the topic will be.

Come and share your views.

Conservatives Club



■Jane Gyorgy

HOPE FOR CHILDREN

At our January 27th meeting, we were honored to host Sonoma County Sheriff Eddie Engram. Sheriff Engram began his law enforcement career in 2002, advancing through various roles before being elected Sheriff in 2022. A distinguished leader, he has received the Distinguished Service Award and Gold Medal of Valor, and holds a BA in Criminal Justice Management.

Sheriff Engram provided a comprehensive overview of the Sheriff's Office's extensive responsibilities, including the Law Enforcement Division, Parks Unit, Narcotics Unit, and Detention Unit, which houses approximately 747 inmates daily. He emphasized the mental health programs and services available to support inmates' well-being and rehabilitation.

With over 58,000 calls for service annually, the Sheriff's Office goes beyond emergency response

to keep our communities safe. Deputies actively participate in ongoing events and outreach programs designed to build trust and collaborate with residents on local concerns. We thank Sheriff Engram for his engaging presentation on the vital services his deputies provide to Sonoma County residents 24/7.

Sharon Wood, Executive Director of New Day for Children, and Phill Wood will be our featured speakers on February 24. Their organization provides hope and healing for children recovering from sex trafficking. While the statistics are staggering, New Day for Children offers critical help and support by connecting families with trusted partner programs.

Meetings are held on the fourth Tuesday of every month, 4-6 PM at The Berger Center, 6633 Oakmont Dr. RSVP via invitation or email TheNewOakmontCC@gmail.com with your full name and the full name(s) of any guests.

■Joseph Pundyk

InvestOAK



THE U.S. STOCK MARKET HAS BEEN VERY VOLATILE. WHY?

The major stock markets of the U.S. and the World hit new highs in January 2026, continuing the upward trend for the third year in a row. In addition, Commodities such as Gold, Silver and Copper reached new highs, but Crypto-currencies continued their downward spiral. Ed Yardeni, one of the important investment commentators coined, "Gold is the new Bitcoin." Virtually all the Crypto-based coins, their ETF's and equities reached lows in 2025. The US dollar is doing poorly as well as it has deflated in 2025 by greater than 10%.

The InvestOAK Club reports and discusses, which investments are performing well. For many of us the performance of our IRA's and other investments are critical. These issues are part of the discussions.

Please join for the next enjoyable InvestOAK Club meeting on Friday, February 20, from 10-11:30 a.m. in the Birch Room of the Central Activity Center.

Oakmont Singles Social Club



■Bailey Penzotti

FEBRUARY MIXER— IT'S CHINESE NEW YEAR!

DATE AND TIME: Friday, February 20, 6 p.m.

WHERE: Berger Center

Oakmont Singles Social Club will gather to celebrate the Lunar New Year. This year, we will be entertained with by members of the Santa Rosa Chinese Christian Church including cultural dance, traditional Chinese music instruments and chorus. Please bring an Asian inspired appetizer or dessert to share.

Please RSVP no later than February 16h at 5 p.m., via our website, or email your Activities Director, Kat at KAT9433@icloud.com.

If you need assistance with the website, please contact Alan at alans25028@hotmail.com.

Remember to wear your name badge to the Berger Center.

MARCH BON APPETIT (OSSC MEMBERS ONLY)

WHEN: Thursday, March 5 at 5:30 p.m.

RESTAURANT: Sonoma Diner, 52 Mission Circle, Santa Rosa

This cozy cafe offers an extensive sandwich menu, delicious sweet and savory crepes, and "Bigger Plates" including pastas that will keep you coming back for more. Customers can look forward to mouthwatering dishes such as Rosemary's Chick—a savory crepe filled with garlic and rosemary-marinated chicken, fresh spinach, mushrooms, and melted Swiss cheese, the indulgent Surf and Turf Pasta and the ever-popular, Dutch Baby!

Our reservation is for maximum of 20 members and open until March 2 at 5 p.m. or when the 20 slots are filled. If there are 20 members confirmed before this date, you will be placed on a waitlist.

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. RSVP on our website or email Simone Smith at ssmith8151@aol.com.

DO YOU LIVE IN OAKMONT? ARE YOU SINGLE?

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



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FEBRUARY 22: BO LAURENT

PERFECTLY NORMAL, JUST UNEXPECTED A GENTLE INTRODUCTION TO INTERSEX

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You'll come away with a deep appreciation for how complicated, vulnerable and resilient it is to be human.



MARCH 1: SAMUEL COHEN

ANCIENT ROME: MYTH, INTRIGUE AND REALITY

What do we really know about Ancient Rome—and how much of it is wrong? In this engaging talk, you'll travel back to the ancient city to uncover four surprising ways we've misunderstood Rome, and discover a civilization far more colorful, complex, and unexpected than the one we thought we knew.



MARCH 8: JEFFREY COLLINS, DO FAAD FROM ITCH TO OUCH TO UH-OH: AGING WELL IN YOUR OWN SKIN

Your skin tells a story—about your health, your habits, and your age. In this practical, eye-opening talk, a dermatologist cuts through the hype to explain what to look for on your skin: what's harmless, what's worth worrying about, and when to seek care. You'll learn how to spot early warning signs, and realistic strategies for keeping your skin healthy and resilient looking.



MARCH 15 (Daylight Savings starts):

KY BOYD

KY'S ANNUAL OAKMONT ACADEMY AWARDS REVIEW



Ky Boyd, a self-professed movieholic who operates the beloved Rialto Cinemas in Sebastopol, will give us his expert take on the movies and actors nominated for the 2026 Oscars. This is always a very lively and fun event, even if you haven't seen all (or any) of the movies. (Sequined dress and Tux not required.)

MARCH 22: DAVID SCHMIDT

THE BAY AREA YOU THOUGHT YOU KNEW

In this vivid, eye-opening talk, environmental historian David D. Schmidt reveals the San Francisco Bay Area not just as our home, but as a living, changing system shaped by thousands of years of human choices and natural forces. You'll walk away seeing our local area with entirely new eyes.



MARCH 29: JIM CODINGTON

A LIFE BEHIND THE LENS: THE COST OF GETTING CLOSE



Jim Codington's photos portray a life lived at full throttle. His images aren't just beautiful, they are visceral, funny, humbling, and profound, offering a rare insight into wildlife, wilderness, and Indigenous cultures. Come for the photographs--stay for an inspiring peek at the man behind the camera.

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A complementary practice supporting critical care and oncology patients, caregivers, and individuals with chronic conditions—offering individual client sessions and practical guidance to reduce fatigue and stress; build resilience and optimize the efficacy of medical treatments, reducing side effects. Jin Shin Jyutsu Practitioner and Self-help Instructor, Dawna Leigh, offers 1-hour sessions and Self-Help Classes for small groups in her Oakmont studio. (415) 755-7008.

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Manicures (\$25) and Pedicures (\$40 and up) for natural nails. Private, clean, relaxing space at 4525 Montgomery Dr., Suite 19. I work by appt. Call (707) 481-9044.

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Detailed, professional residential and commercial cleaning. Landscape maintenance and installation. Rock/Stone: paths, stairs, patios, walls. As well as dump runs, painting, animal care, errands, cooking. Diane, (707) 955 6514.

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.

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

Oakmont Village Association

OAKMONT VILLAGE ASSOCIATION

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

MAINTENANCE OFFICE

Hours: Daily 7 AM–10 PM
 Tel 707-539-6720
 Maintenance Building (next to Central Auditorium)

CONDOMINIUM FINANCIAL MANAGEMENT (CFM)

OVA Accounting
 Tel 800-585-4297

OAKMONT NEWS

Tel 707-206-1957
 E-mail: cjmprod567@gmail.com

PAS MANAGEMENT COMPANY

Hours: M–F 9 AM–Noon, and 1–4 PM
 Tel 707-539-5810
 6572 Oakmont Dr., Ste. A
 (for Association Maintained Homes)

ARCHITECTURAL OFFICE

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

NEED A RIDE? GIVE A RIDE! OAKMONT VOLUNTEER HELPERS

We provide the following services to Oakmont Residents:

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

COORDINATOR Rides to Medical Appointments

February 15–28
 Gloria Heinzl 707-843-0224
March 1–15
 Jen Rabalais 808-938-4479

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

Mon.–Fri. medical rides before 9 AM or after 4 PM are subject to limited volunteer driver availability. No service on weekends or holidays. Please call at least three full working days prior to appointment.
We regret that we are unable to provide either wheelchair or emergency service.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR WRITER GUIDELINES

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

POOLS & JACUZZIS

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

STORAGE UNITS AND PARKING

Oak Creek RV & Self Storage
 SP176, www.storagepro.com
 707-913-7326

LIBRARY

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

OAKMONT COMMUNITY GARDEN ON STONEBRIDGE

For more info on signing up, email Oakmontcommunitygarden@gmail.com. Contact for current availability.

HAPPY TAILS DOG PARK

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

2025–2026 OVA BOARD OF DIRECTORS

E-mail: askova@oakmontvillage.com

Matt Oliver, President
matt.oliver@oakmontvillage.com
Jerry Gladstone, Vice President
jerry.gladstone@oakmontvillage.com
Jess Marzak, Secretary
jmarzak@oakmontvillage.com
Heidi Klyn, Director
heidi.klyn@oakmontvillage.com
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jeff.neuman@oakmontvillage.com
Neill Ray, Director
neill.ray@oakmontvillage.com

Robert Williams, Director
robert.williams@oakmontvillage.com
Tom Kendrick, Treasurer
 (Non-voting officer)
tom.kendrick@oakmontvillage.com

GENERAL MANAGER
Christel Antone
christel@oakmontvillage.com

OVA BOARD MEETINGS

Townhalls 1st Tuesdays of the month and board meetings 3rd Tuesdays of the month, 1 PM

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

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

HOW TO CONTACT YOUR LOCAL OFFICIALS

**County Supervisor Rebecca Hermsillo
District 1**
 Phone 707-565-2241
 Address: 575 Administration Drive,
 Rm. 100A, Santa Rosa 95403
 Email: rebecca.hermsillo@sonoma-county.org

**City Councilwoman Dianna MacDonald
District 3**
 Email: dmacdonald@srcity.org
 Address: City Hall, 100 Santa Rosa Ave.,
 Rm.10, Santa Rosa 95404

PUBLIC TRANSPORTATION AVAILABLE IN OAKMONT

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

BE ON OVA E-MAIL LIST

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

Canine Club



■Steve Huntley

FREE CANINE VACCINES AT HUMANE SOCIETY OF SONOMA COUNTY

The Humane Society of Sonoma County (HSSC) is currently offering free vaccinations for dogs at their Santa Rosa clinic located at 5345 Highway 12 West, on the first and third Mondays of each month from 2-4 p.m., except February 16 (President's Day). The next free clinics will be held on March 2 and March 16.

No appointment necessary, walk-ins only, first come, first served. Vaccines available include rabies vaccine and Canine DA2PP which protects against distemper, adenovirus types 1 & 2, parainfluenza, and parvovirus. Humans attending with their doggies can get a free flu vaccine shot at the same time!

Check HSSC's website for more info and updates at



Allie.

<https://humanesocietysoco.org>.

The next up and coming play date at Oakmont's own Happy Tails Dog Park is the Big Dog Play Date (35 lbs. or more) on Saturday, February 28, 10 a.m.-Noon. Every day from 3-4 p.m. the dog park is reserved for small dogs (25 lbs. or less)!

We still need dog park volunteers! Would you like to be a Happy Tails Dog Park volunteer? One of seven volunteers visits the dog park once a week for about an hour each time and refills dog waste bag dispensers, inspects the sail shades, fencing, and deck for any damage, inspects the grounds for doggie waste and

cleans it up and disposes it in waste cans, and in general looks for anything else out of place or damaged. Currently, we need a Saturday volunteer and a back-up volunteer. If you would like to volunteer, please contact Peri Olinger at periolinger@yahoo.com or (707) 479-6961.



Emma.

Not a member of the Oakmont Canine Club? You can join now! Annual membership dues are only \$12 for individuals and \$20 for households. Go to www.oakmontcanineclub.org for more information on how to join this exciting club!

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Lifelong Learning

■Marlena Tremont

**SPRING CLASS PREVIEW
WEDNESDAY, MARCH 18, BERGER
2:30 PM MUSIC AND REFRESHMENTS,
3 PM PROGRAM**

Come hear the instructors for this incredible Spring line-up!

JACK LONDON IN THE SOUTH SEAS

Instructor: Dr. John Freedman

Thursdays, Apr. 9 and 16, 3–5 p.m., Berger
2-week session. Cost: \$35 or \$26.25 with discount

**JIMMY CARTER, RONALD REAGAN, AND
THE TWILIGHT OF AMERICAN LIBERALISM**

Instructor: Mick Chantler

Thursdays, Apr. 23, 30, May 7, 14, 21 and 28
3–5 p.m., East Rec

6-week session. Cost: \$95 or \$71.25 with discount

**WINE: IN HISTORY,
ART, AND SOCIETY**

Instructor: David Sandri

Mondays, Apr. 13, 20, 27 and



May 4, 3–5 p.m., Berger
4-week session. Cost: \$65 or \$48.75 with discount

**ARCHAEOLOGY IN THE LAND
OF THE BIBLE**

Instructor: Alexis Boutin

Wednesdays, April 15, 22, 29, May 6, 13 and 20
3–5 p.m., Berger

6-week session. Cost: \$95 or \$71.25 with discount

**GREAT WOMEN
OF THE BLUES**

Instructor: Pamela Rose

Mondays, May 11, 18 and 25
2–4 p.m. (early start time), Berger

3-week session. Cost: \$50 or
\$37.50 with discount



Purchase multiple classes at the same time for the same person in the same semester and receive a 25% off to total. To register for classes, go to Oakmontll.org, fill out a form with payment in the OVA office or pay at the door.

Oakmont Birders

■Barbara Kendrick

BIRDS WORTH WATCHING: SAY'S PHOEBE

Good news this month—here's a chance to see an attractive bird you probably haven't met before. Go to the Community Garden (on Stone Bridge Road) on a nice day and stroll to the northwest corner (facing the garden from the street, it's the farthest righthand corner; there's a birdhouse on the post). This is the winter hangout of a Say's Phoebe.

Say's Phoebes visit here between September and March, arriving from breeding grounds in the north. This particular bird (assuming it's the same one) has arrived right on schedule for the past 5 years.

A bit smaller than a robin, the bird is a pale brownish-grey with a slightly darker head and a nearly black tail. The dusty body color contrasts handsomely with a peachy wash on its belly.

The Say's Phoebe, cousin of the more-common Black Phoebe, is part of the flycatcher family. It prefers dry,

open, sparsely vegetated areas where it can find a low perch that offers a good view—in our case, the fence



Taking off after a bug.
(Photo by Tom Grey)

around the garden is perfect. From this perch it flies out to capture passing insects, usually returning to the same perch. This is helpful for observers, because once you see the bird perching, you know it will likely be back. Our bird often sits on the birdhouse but doesn't go inside. He (or she—they look alike) isn't put off by people as long as you keep a respectful distance.

The Community Garden fence is also a good place to spot Western Bluebirds, Lesser Goldfinches, and a slew of other small birds. And a variety of hawks, ravens, and other soaring birds frequent the open areas around the garden. It's one of Oakmont's best birding spots.

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



Say's Phoebe perched.
(Photo by Tom Grey)

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.

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CalDRE# 02145716



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