

OAKMONT NEWS

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Celebrating Oakmont's Centenarians

■Crissi Langwell, OVA Communications Director

What is the secret to a long life? Medical experts often point to good nutrition, regular activity, strong relationships and a sense of purpose. But there may be no single formula, and Oakmont's centenarians show that a full life can take many different forms.

At least 12 Oakmont residents have reached or surpassed their 100th birthdays. Their lives have included military service, meaningful careers, devoted families, lasting friendships and plenty of music, dancing, golf, hiking, volunteering and community involvement.

Here is a glimpse into the remarkable lives of some of Oakmont's centenarians.



Ann Favila, 101



Elaine Smith, 100



Louise Donahue, 101



Millie McKay, 102



Bud Anderson, 100



Dale Blake, 102



Stanley Siddle, 100



Five of Oakmont's centenarians. Top Row L-R: Wally Wortman, 103, and Dee Johnson, 100. Bottom Row L-R: Angela Saul, 100, Rachel Corso, almost 100 and Alicia Clay, 100. (Photo by Julie Kiil)

See **CENTENARIANS** on page 4

President's Message: Oakmont Finances 101, Part 2

■Steve Spanier, OVA Board President

It doesn't matter who you are. No one likes paying more each year for basically the same thing.

That describes dues increases. Virtually every year, in active adult communities all over the country, HOA dues rise. Yet few would say what we get for our money improves enough to justify the increase.

Why is this? The answer is that HOA dues increases are more affected by market conditions generally and inflation more specifically than anything else.

About one third of our dues pay the salaries of our staff. To retain Christel and her consistently excellent employees, OVA must provide them raises each year. And those raises should at least cover inflation. While boards come and go, the institutional knowledge of our staff is the glue that keeps the machinery of the community running smoothly. If staff retention is a problem in a particular senior community, I can virtually guarantee that community will also have many other problems.

Roughly another third of our dues pay for OVA's operations. The staff and outside vendors maintain our buildings, grounds and amenities—some sixty acres all told. OVA regularly pays bills from dozens of companies. These companies supply us with gardeners, pool cleaners, tree trimmers, equipment maintenance professionals, insurance brokers, lawyers and many others. And guess what? They all want more money each year for whatever they provide for us.

Finally, dues feed our reserve funds. The Asset Replacement Fund and Capital Improvement Fund were discussed in the first part of this series. So, if we want to increase our reserve funding percentage, we must either increase dues or assess.

Here's the bottom line: Virtually everything our dues pay for increases in price each year at a rate we don't control. Our dues pay real people, and those real people need to live in the same inflationary world we do. So, even if we do nothing but fix things, dues must climb to match market conditions. If they don't, as has happened a couple times in Oakmont's history, catching up is usually necessary.

For example, in the ten years between 1969 and 1979, Oakmont dues went up—wait for it—not at all. Part of this was because most of Oakmont's amenities were relatively new at that point and part was due to developer impact fees positively affecting Oakmont's bottom line. Now, at age 60+, and without any more developer impact fees helping us, Oakmont faces a very different financial environment.

See **PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE** on page 4

Grandparents Week



Kids and grandparents had a ball celebrating Grandparents Week in Oakmont, July 26–31. Activities kicked off with the Welcome Carnival, then continued throughout the week with sports, a nature walk, activities hosted by OVA's many clubs, a family picnic, and the Treasures and Treats Pool Coin Toss at the CAC pool. This event is hosted annually by the Grandparents Club. (Photos by Maureen McGettigan and Jackie Ryan)

Town Hall on Updates to Los Guilicos Campus

■Oakmont Village Association

Oakmont Village Association invites members to attend a community Town Hall on Tuesday, August 11 at 3 p.m. featuring Sonoma County First District Supervisor Rebecca Hermosillo and Sonoma County Department of Health Services Director Nolan Sullivan. This meeting will be held in the Berger Center, and also on Zoom. (Webinar ID: 869 6795 1425)

County representatives will provide updates on topics related to the Los Guilicos campus and discuss current and future County initiatives affecting the surrounding community. The presentation will be followed by an opportunity for questions from attendees.

This Town Hall is intended to provide Oakmont members with information directly from County officials and to encourage an open dialogue regarding issues of community interest.

We encourage all interested members to attend.

To see a detailed map of the County Facilities at Los Guilicos and answers to Frequently Asked Questions, visit oakmontvillage.com.

Editor's Note: An incorrect date for the Los Guilicos Town Hall was listed in the last issue of Oakmont News. The correct date is August 11 at 3 p.m.



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Letter to the Editor

Dear Editor,

Wow! The quality of the produce sold at the Oakmont Farmers’ Market motivates me to write this letter praising the vegetable vendors. It’s reasonably priced—often lower than chain stores—and stays fresh longer.

A visit to the Wells Fargo parking lot any Saturday, 9 to noon, will surprise any savvy buyer. You will see seasonal vegetables, herbs, flowers, berries, honey, clean and cared for. Fresh eggs too! I want you, any Oakmont resident or visitor to stop by to take advantage of this special opportunity to get the good stuff. We want the vendors to be successful so they continue to sell their best here in Oakmont Village.

In addition, you find non-produce vendors with unusual talents. Beautiful cards for any occasion, seasonal herb products from lavender, baked goods like bread and scones, lovely placemats, napkins, cute crocheted purses, Japanese fabric purses, jewelry, and books—children’s and adults.

If you visit, you’ll also be entertained by live music. We have wonderful talent in Oakmont Village area.

Don’t miss it. Your life will be enriched even if you don’t purchase anything.

Liz O’Connell

Trash Tip

■Terry Parker, Oakmont
Environmental Stewardship Task Force

WHERE DOES FOOD WASTE GO?
IN THE GREEN COMPOST BIN!

When we put food waste in the trash, it produces extremely potent greenhouse gases as it decomposes. According to Zero Waste Sonoma, this adds to climate change. So, it’s important to place food waste, as well as food-soiled items like napkins, uncoated paper plates, and pizza boxes, into the green bin so that they can turn into compost. Doing so not only helps reduce greenhouse gases from garbage, it also contributes to nutrient-rich compost for healthier soils in gardens and farms.

Even better: Reduce food waste. Share or donate unused food.

To learn more, check out our “Best Practices for Resource Management” Guide at oakmontvillage.com/oestf.

Do you have a question about what goes where? Look for Recology’s “What Bin” search tool at [www. Recology.com/ RSMWhatBin](http://www.Recology.com/RSMWhatBin).



“Composting is fun!”
says Marie Kay Hansen.
(Photo by Lesli Lee)

Toxic Waste
Collection



■OVA Staff

TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 8, 2-7 PM
AT WEST REC.

LIMITS: 15 gallons of liquid (with a maximum of five gallons per container) or 125 pounds of solid material. Never mix chemicals. Place in sealed containers in the trunk, packed to prevent spills. Syringes/ needles must be in sealed, approved Sharps containers.

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

Online appointments are available. To sign up, visit [zerowastesonomahhwevent.as.me/ Oakmont](http://zerowastesonomahhwevent.as.me/Oakmont).

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

Join a Club Night

■Oakmont Village Association

THURSDAY, AUGUST 13, 6-7:30 PM,
BERGER CENTER

Whether you’re new to Oakmont or a long-time resident, “Join a Club Night” is your chance to explore the many clubs and organizations that make our community vibrant and connected. Have you been curious about a club or group and would like to learn more? This is your chance to meet club representatives, ask questions, and discover activities that match your interests—from arts and fitness to games, learning, volunteering, and more.

Come to the Berger Center on Thursday, August 13, 6-7:30 p.m. to meet and talk with members from over 50 different clubs. Refreshments will be served, and there is no cost to attend.

E-Waste Collection



■OVA Staff

SATURDAY AND SUNDAY,
AUGUST 15 AND 16, 9 AM-5 PM



E-Waste Collection will be two-day event, sponsored by Conservation Corps North Bay. They will be parked in the Berger parking lot, 310 White Oak Drive, parallel to the street. There is no appointment needed for this event.

Accepted e-waste items are computer equipment (computers, monitors, laptops, keyboards, printers, mice, hard drives), consumer electronics (DVD players, VCRs, gaming devices, stereo components, radios, PDAs, cell phones, cables), televisions (CRTs and LCDs), and office equipment (telephones, fax machines, copiers). The only kitchen appliances accepted are microwaves.

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Cal Alumni Club
of Oakmont

■Marilyn Noah

SANTA ROSA MAYOR TO SPEAK
AT AUGUST CAL ALUM DINNER



SR Mayor
Mark Stapp.

The current mayor of Santa Rosa, Mark Stapp, is scheduled to speak at the August Cal Alumni Club of Oakmont dinner. In addition to his responsibilities as mayor, Mr. Stapp is currently the Senior Director for Corporate and Foundation Relations at Sonoma State University. His committee and board positions include:

- Sonoma County Ag and Open Space Advisory Committee
- Santa Rosa Plain Groundwater Sustainability Agency Board
- Russian River Watershed Association Board
- Violence Prevention Partnership Policy Team (Vice-Chair)
- Long-Term Financial Policy and Audit Subcommittee
- Water Advisory Committee

Dinner will be at the Wild Oak Saddle Club on Thursday, August 20 at 5 p.m. Cost is \$62 per person. Dinners often sell out so if interested in attending, don't delay! The deadline for registering is August 14.

Club members may register and pay for dinner on the club website, www.caloakmont.org. Guests are welcome at our dinners. Contact oakmontcalalums@gmail.com for details on registering as a non-member guest.



Oakmont Ukesters

■Rebecca Gilbert

LEARN TO PLAY UKULELE

The Ukesters of Oakmont is offering a 7-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, September 4, 11, 18, 25, October 2, 9 and 16

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

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.

ECK Spiritual
Adventures Club

■Kimberly A. Morris

IS IT POSSIBLE TO SELF-GENERATE
YOUR SPIRITUAL HAPPINESS?

Welcome back from summer! We cordially invite you to our club event on Friday, August 21 from 3–4:30 p.m. in the Birch Room. We will explore “Is it possible to Self-Generate or achieve your Spiritual Happiness?”

You are welcome to share what guided you to pursue a spiritual life. Was it always a given? Or did Divine Spirit give you very challenging dynamics that opened your consciousness to pursue a higher state of Love?

In the ECK Spiritual Adventures Club, we refer to the teachings of Eckankar, the ancient path of Spiritual Freedom. Sri Doug Kunin, Spiritual Leader or Eckankar, shares that “Love cannot be told without a story, a song, a symphony. Each tells the tale of a journey.” Doug shares that when we render a small kindness to a person, a creature, or the earth itself, we are living our higher spiritual happiness. As Soul, our eternal nature is happy and devoted to life.

We share stories about our deep connection with each other through Divine Love and our spiritual experiences in the Light and Sound of the Creator. Many describe very inspiring experiences from their spiritual practices garnered through intuition, nudges, dreams, past lives, soul travel, and spiritual contemplative practices.

We will offer a meditative, spiritual exercise to connect directly to the God Current within you. It is an ancient song of God's Love called the HU. Participating in chanting the word HU or listening to this spiritual exercise can enhance your own spiritual journey.

We look forward to meeting and hearing your spiritual wisdom. This is a safe space as all perspectives are revered with unconditional love. We believe that Soul equals Soul.

If interested, contact me at (707) 312-6369 or visit the website: www.ca-eck.org.

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Continued from page 1

Boards are charged with being community stewards and must, by law, do their best to keep the community relevant. “Relevance,” of course, is tough to measure, but I believe most boards would construct similar definitions of the word. Those definitions would include phrases like “well-maintained,” “attractive,” “modern amenities,” and similar.

Experts will tell you that the single most important criterion for measuring the success of HOA boards is the relative resale value of homes in the community. Resale values that keep pace with those of comparable communities and the surrounding area are a sign the community is seen as desirable. Communities that are not well maintained or don't have the amenities new homeowners are looking for will suffer from lagging home resale values.

For most of us, our homes represent a significant portion of our overall net worth. They are often our single largest source of emergency funds. If the worst happens, most of us can sell our homes and use the money to maintain our lifestyles. Selling a home under these circumstances is by no means a desirable solution, but it can make a big difference when finances are tight and there are no other options. Houses in less desirable communities take longer to sell and don't command as much money.

In the final part of this series, I'll present one possible strategy for running HOAs like Oakmont.

CENTENARIANS

Continued from page 1

Wally Wortman, who turned 103 in June, moved to Oakmont with his late wife Audrey in 1987. A US Army veteran, Wally served in WWII from 1943-46. He still lives on his own with the help of two daughters, a son and their families, plus his niece who also lives in Oakmont. Wally has been an avid golf player, active in Branch 92 SIRS, and was a member of Cal Alumni, serving as president in 1993 and 1994.

Dee Johnson, who is 100 years old, has lived in Oakmont Village for 20 years. She now lives happily at Oakmont Gardens. For Dee, the biggest thrill she experienced was witnessing the birth of her youngest grandchild, who is now 46 years old.

Angela Saul, who recently turned 100, was raised in Italy before moving back to the US, and has lived in Oakmont since January 2006. She was a member of the original Italian Club, and she took many other classes at Oakmont's facilities. Angela's career included working at St. John Knits in Los Angeles, where she supervised a team creating high-end, Chanel-inspired knit suits and jackets. She credits her longevity to her caring family, friends, neighbors, and Catholic Charities.

Alicia Clay, who is 100 years old and now lives at Oakmont Gardens, is known for her high scores in Wii bowling (she recently got a 179) and is found at most bingo games.

Millie McKay, who is turning 103 in October, has lived in Oakmont for over 30 years. She has been a part of Star of the Valley's Women's Circle, and a member of the church committee with her late husband.

Ann Favila, who is 101 years old, is a very close friend of Millie's. Ann moved to Oakmont in 2017 after losing her Kenwood home to the fires. Both she and Millie are members of the same book club.

Louise Donahue, who is 101 years old, has lived in Oakmont for 47 years. She and her late husband John were very active in the OVA community, and she's loved by her church family at Star of the Valley Catholic Church.

Dale Blake, who is 102 years old, recently celebrated 60 years of marriage to his wife Nancy. 22 years ago, they moved from Alameda to Oakmont after Dale retired from a spice and food seasoning company. Dale also has three daughters.

Elaine Smith, who is 100 years old, moved to Oakmont more than 30 years ago with her late husband Frank. She was a wonderful tap dancer and gifted ballroom dancer, and she also played the banjo and clarinet. She loves to watch golf and girls college basketball, especially the University of Connecticut team, her hometown university.

Bud Anderson, who is 100 years old, has lived in Oakmont since 1991. He and his wife, Lou, were very involved with the Kenwood Community Church, and were also avid hikers. Bud was one of the originators of the annual car show in Oakmont, and an enthusiastic volunteer for his sub-HOA.

Stanley Siddle, who is 100 years old, moved to Oakmont Gardens in 2021. Before retiring and moving to the US, he worked for the British services in accounting in Ghana.

And almost ready to join our centenarians is Rachel Corso, who turns 100 this December and has lived in Oakmont for about 38 years. She enjoyed playing bocce ball, and she danced in an Oakmont group called The Happy Hoovers, and also with the line dancing group. She is a grandma, great grandma and great-great grandma.

Although their paths have been different, Oakmont's centenarians share long lives shaped by family, friends, activities, and community. Their stories reflect not just years lived, but the experiences and relationships that have filled them.

OVA Welcomes American Idol Alum to Berger

■OVA Staff

OVA is excited to welcome recording artist and American Idol alum Nick Crossen to the Berger stage on September 10. Doors open at 5:30 p.m., and the show begins at 6 p.m. Tickets are \$30 each, available at the OVA office.



Crossen is a singer, recording artist and performer with roots in San Francisco Bay Area Theatre, and appeared on season 12 of “American Idol.” He’s currently celebrating the 2026 release of his debut full length album, “I’m Doing Okay,” which features personal interpretations of covers from the likes of Joni Mitchell, Don McLean, Stephen Sondheim, Alan Menken, plus his own songwriting debut.

Pianist Parker Grant, who’s featured on the album, joins Crossen in this show for an evening of new perspectives on old classics.

Enjoy the Pool This Summer!

■OVA Staff

The weather lately has been favorable for a summer dip in any of our facility pools, and it’s been wonderful to see so many residents and their families enjoying the community aspect of the Central pool. Whether you’re swimming laps, relaxing poolside or bringing the family for children’s hours at the Central pool, we want every visit to be safe and enjoyable for all our members and guests. Here’s a quick refresher on our pool rules and hours so everyone can make the most of the season.

POOL HOURS

Central Pool: Opens 5:45 a.m., closes 9 p.m.

Central Pool kids’ hours: 11 a.m.–4 p.m. daily (until Labor Day)

East Pool: Opens 6:30 a.m., closes 9 p.m. (18 and over only)

West Pool: Opens 7 a.m., closes 9 p.m. (18 and over only)

The CAC pool is the only pool designated for guests under 18 years of age.

A FEW REMINDERS

Children (17 and under) must be accompanied by an Oakmont resident or an adult 18+ with a valid guest card during children’s hours.

- Diapers, including swim diapers, are not permitted in the pool.
- All pool patrons must shower before entering the pool.
- No food or drink (other than water in a plastic bottle), and no glass in the pool area.
- No jumping, diving, or running on the pool deck.
- Children under 18 are not allowed in the Jacuzzis.
- All guests must have a guest card or be accompanied by an Oakmont resident.
- The capacity limit of the Central Pool is 60 guests.

STAFF MONITORING

Our staff regularly monitors the pool area to help ensure these rules are followed. If you see anything that needs our attention, please contact the OVA Admin office at (707) 539-1611, or on off hours, Maintenance Staff at (707) 328-4619.

EMERGENCIES

In case of an emergency, use the phone located on the wall next to the first aid kit. Please note there are no lifeguards on duty.

Thank you for helping us keep the pool safe and enjoyable for everyone. Have a great time in the water!

Find our full pool use policy here: oakmontvillage.com/article/pool-use-policy.

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

From league golf to live music, paint nights, and a first-ever talent show, there’s a lot on the calendar at Valley of the Moon this summer. Here’s a roundup of what’s coming up on the course and in the clubhouse.

Visit playvom.com for up-to-date information about happenings at the Valley of the Moon Club and OAK restaurant.

ON THE COURSE

Spark Golf League returns for another season of casual, social nine-hole golf. Running every Thursday evening from March 12 through September 3, the league is free to join and welcomes players to show up as often as they’d like while competing for end-of-season prizes. Rounds run \$24 for the green fee, \$14 for the cart, and \$9 for the league fee, with sign-ups available online.

For regular players, the Twilight Membership remains one of the best deals around: \$39 a month gets you a \$23 rate—green fee, shared cart, and a small bucket of range balls included—any time you play after 1 p.m., seven days a week. Applications are available on the website.

It’s also not too late to sign up for an Annual Membership. Reach out to General Manager Khiana Schmuhl at kschmuhl@playvom.com or check the website for details.

Range regulars should mark their calendars for Friday, August 14, when the Driving Range Card goes on sale for \$100 (down from \$150) good for 12 large buckets instead of the usual 10.

Looking to host a golf outing? The club is booking tournaments and corporate events now. Call (707) 539-0415 to set up your own league or event, or submit a request directly at playvom.com/tournaments.

IN THE CLUBHOUSE

Every last Wednesday of the month, from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m., a knife-sharpening van sets up in the OAK banquet parking lot—\$8 per knife and \$14 per garden tool.

OAK at the VOM Golf Club



Thursday night dinner specials continue to rotate through August: a rib-eye steak on August 13 (\$33), a half-pound smash burger on August 20 (\$22), and sweet chili demi-glaze braised short rib on August 27 (\$30).

Music Mondays keep the live entertainment going, with the Fargo Brothers Band playing August 17 and Coffey Park Band closing out the month on August 31. The lineup continues into September with Hwy. 12 Band on the 14th and repeat sets from Coffey Park (21st) and the Fargo Brothers (28th).

Paint Nights, hosted by Paint Cellars Sonoma County, return August 7 and again September 4, both from 5–7 p.m. with doors opening at 4:30. Tickets are \$45 per person and include all art supplies—no experience necessary. Dinner, appetizers, and wine (21+) are available for purchase throughout the evening, though food and drink aren’t included in the ticket price. Sign up at www.paintedcellarssoco.com.

SAVE THE DATES

August 14 also brings a Singles Social Mixer from 5–7 p.m., with light bites, signature cocktails, and a relaxed setting to meet new people. Cover is \$10 at the door or in advance through Marisa at (707) 539-0415 ext. 6 or mmanagno@playvom.com.

Then on August 30, the club hosts its first-ever Community Talent Show, from 5–8 p.m. Singers, comedians, magicians, dancers, and group acts are all welcome—just get your act and lineup details to Marisa by July 31. Audience tickets include preferred seating and a \$10 cover, with food and beverage available from 5–7 p.m.

A FEW REMINDERS

Please don’t fish in any of the golf course ponds—it’s a safety concern. And be sure to check playvom.com for posted walking hours on the course.

To subscribe to receive all Valley of the Moon email communication, visit www.playvom.com/contact/newsletter-signup.

Oakmont Garden Club



■Patty McHugh

HERBS: GROWING, HARVESTING AND USING

SAVE THE DATE—SEPTEMBER 9

“Herbs deserve more than a corner of the garden; they deserve a corner of the soul.”—Unknown

“Growing herbs is the closest thing we have to alchemy—turning soil, water, and sunlight into medicine and flavor.”—Anonymous

Mark your calendar now! The Oakmont Garden Club returns from our summer break on Wednesday, September 9. We meet at the East Rec. facility at 9:30 a.m. for a social period with the speaker’s presentation beginning at 10 a.m. Q&A period follows.

Our first program of the fall will be presented by Garth Hokanson, retired instructor in Horticulture and Culinary Arts at Santa Rosa Junior College. He plans to explain the secrets of propagating herbs and

cultivating them, so they grow healthy and to their full potential. Fertilization, Pruning and Harvesting will be included, as well as Pest and Disease Control.

Descriptions of the best herbs suited for culinary, medicine and crafts will be discussed. There will be a display of living herbs including a number of unusual herbs. Whether you enjoy herbs for cooking, herbal teas, medicinal qualities or for craft making, you will gain some fresh insight at this lecture.

This is a new subject for us and is sure to garner much interest. If you are not a member of the club, please come as our guest—we hope you like our forum and will consider joining. Any new member who joins at our September, October or November meeting will automatically become a member for 2027 as well. Dues are \$15 annually per family.

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Bocce Club



■Deb Ponts

LET THE GOOD TIMES ROLL TOURNAMENT

Bocce members plan to join us for a little exercise and a fun morning with friends on August 8. Be there no later than 9:15 a.m. for 50/50 raffle and to form teams. August 18 we're going to play a few night games starting at 5 p.m.

Club member play is 9:30 a.m. Tuesday, Thursday, Friday and Saturday. Oakmont residents can reserve one court during times not reserved for member play by contacting Bob Swift, (707) 648-5409. We've received a donation of Bocce balls that are available for all to use. They are located outside of the club building.

Mark your calendars for December 5 for our "member only" annual holiday celebration at the Riviera restaurant in Santa Rosa.

Interested in becoming a member? Bocce is a low impact, interactive sport and a great way to meet your neighbors. New member lessons are available the first Tuesday of the month at 9:30 a.m. With your membership you'll receive a code to access the equipment.

Annual dues are \$25 and applications are available at the OVA office. Cash is preferred, checks are accepted payable to our Treasurer, Tony Sarram.

Oakmont Movers and Groovers



■Denise Lindsey

SPIKE SIKES AND HIS AWESOME HOTCAKES

The most frequently heard comment after a Spike's Awesome Hotcakes gig goes something like this: "No one is making this kind of music anymore!" But what, exactly, is "this kind of music?"

Like hotcakes themselves, it goes by many names. Soul. Swing. Rhythm and Blues. Jazz. Jump. It's a sound that's classic and simple, but when it's done right, it hits the spot and has you grinning from ear to ear. Spike has spent



years searching for this sound. From the Texas blues joints he cut his teeth in to the funky halls of New Orleans, he was always studying the music, trying to find just the right recipe.

It makes perfect sense that he found his bandmates in Sonoma County, a music scene that has fostered many eclectic artists for decades. What he didn't know was how hungry audiences were for "this kind of music." You might say they've been eating it up



like... Hotcakes!
DATE: Saturday, September 5
TIME: Music starts at 6:30 p.m. and ends at 9 p.m. (doors open at 5:30 p.m.)
LOCATION: Berger Center, 6633 Oakmont Drive
TICKETS: Member \$20, non-member \$25. Tickets can be purchased on omgclub.org. Cash

or checks payable to OMG are accepted at the OVA office and can be placed in the OMG folder.

Feel free to bring your drinks and snacks to enhance your experience. Food truck TBD

Playreaders



■D. Hall

COME AND SEE THE BEDROOM BANTER

August's presentation by Oakmont Playreaders never leaves the bedroom as Ginna Zoellner and John Dolan star in *The Fourposter*, by Jan deHartog, narrated by Sarah Shankman.

The story spans 35 years, from 1890 to 1925, as it focuses on the trials and tribulations, laughter and sorrows, and hopes and disappointments experienced by Agnes and Michael throughout their marriage. We saw Act 1 last Monday and Act 2 is on August 10.

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.

Pickleball Corner



■Peter Copen

TEST FOR THE BEST—FORGET THE REST

How do you find out what paddle is best for you? In the early days of pickleball, we just had to ask someone and then try out the paddle. Today, there are sophisticated ways to determine the paddle you want. How? Through tests, and some of the tests are free and online (one example: www.justpaddles.com/paddle-lab/).

Pickleball paddle tests measure key performance metrics like power, spin, and stability using scientific lab equipment. Common metrics include exit velocity, spin rate, swing weight, and twist weight.

Lab Testing Metrics:

- Exit Velocity: Measures the power potential of a paddle by firing a ball from a cannon and tracking rebound speed.
- Spin Rate: Uses high-speed cameras to record revolutions per minute (RPM) upon impact.
- Swing Weight: Evaluates how heavy the paddle feels during active motion using a pendulum setup.
- Twist Weight: Determines forgiveness and resistance to twisting on off-center hits.
- Balance Point: Checks weight distribution to see if a paddle is head-heavy or handle-heavy.

Official Regulations:

- Size Limits: USAP rules state that a paddle's total length plus width cannot exceed 24 inches, and length cannot pass 17 inches.
- Deflection Test: A surface load test measures face compression to ensure compliance with governing body standards.

Adage for the day: Want the best? Do a test. Forget the rest.

Playing pickleball in Oakmont is free. However, there is a cost to be a member of the Pickleball Club of \$30/yr. The benefits include friends, fun socials, parties, club pays for the balls, loaner paddles to try out and coaching and skills training.

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: www.oakmontpickleballclub.com.



Cartoon by Peter Copen.

Jazz Club Concert



■Dolora Hurst

A VERY SPECIAL JAZZ CONCERT

This concert will feature internationally famous musicians—three of whom have won Grammy Awards! It will take place in our Berger Auditorium on September 26. Because these musicians perform all over the world, booking them means reaching out to places like Dubai, Japan, and Africa. I've learned to make contact far in advance to secure them, since they're truly among the top musicians performing today.

Here's a short introduction to who we'll be hearing, right here at home.

We've had Jamie Davis here in past shows. He was a Count Basie singer and has been said to have one of the five best voices in the world—if you've heard him, you know why. He's also an Academy Award winner.

Our pianist, Glen Pearson, directed the famous Boys Choir of Harlem for 12 years and is a true master of the piano.



Jamie Davis.



Glen Pearson.

Our drummer, Leon Joyce, is a renowned musician, who you may have heard playing with the fabulous Ramsey Lewis band. I'll share more about his incredible career in future issues before the concert.

Rounding out the group are bass player Ron Belcher and master saxophonist Richard Howell, who has played with too many famous musicians to list here.

It's rare for a small concert to bring together a group of players who are each a star in their own right. Every one of them has performed solo and alongside other musicians of the same caliber, recording and touring with top names in the industry. Hearing them play together will be thrilling! They are each known throughout the jazz world as especially accomplished musicians, and we here in Oakmont are truly fortunate to have them on our stage. Watch future issues of the Oakmont newspaper for more on these individual players.

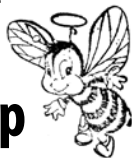
WHEN: Saturday, Sept. 26. Doors open at 6:30 p.m.; concert begins at 7 p.m.

LOCATION: Berger Auditorium

TICKETS: \$45 and may be ordered at the OVA Office, under the Oakmont Jazz Concert Club file. Please fill out a coupon and make checks payable to the Oakmont Jazz Concert Club. Tickets for up to 8 may be reserved. Drinks and snacks are permitted. Names will be held at the door.

INFORMATION: (707) 537-7720

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.

Lifelong Learning

■Marlena Tremont

Here are the new classes and concerts for Fall.

2026 FALL CLASS PREVIEW
Wednesday, August 26, Berger Center
2:30 p.m. Music and Refreshments, 3 p.m. Program
Come hear and talk to the instructors for this incredible line-up for fall!



REVOLUTION!
Instructor: Dr. Steve Harris
Mondays, Sept. 14, 21, 28, Oct. 5, 12, 3–5 p.m.,
Berger Center
5-week session. Cost: \$80 or \$60 with discount



MOTOWN RECORDS: THE GREATEST SOUL MUSIC RECORD LABEL
Instructor: Richie Unterberger
Wednesdays, Sept. 16, 23, 30, Oct. 7, 14, 21, 3–5 p.m.,
East Rec.
6-week session. Cost: \$95 or \$71.25 with discount

THE MAKING OF SAN FRANCISCO BAY: ENVIRONMENT, SEA LEVEL, AND ECOLOGY ACROSS 12,000 YEARS
Instructor: Lucy Bates
Thursdays, Sept. 17, 24, 3–5 p.m., East Rec.
2-week session. Cost: \$35 or \$26.25 with discount

COMEDY MASTERWORKS OF SEVENTIES CINEMA
Instructor: Terry Ebinger
Thursdays, Oct. 1, 8, 15, 22, 2–5 p.m., East Rec.
(Note: early start time)
4-week session. Cost: \$95 or \$71.25 with discount

ART IN AMERICA: THE 20TH CENTURY
Instructor: Craig Griffeath
Mondays, Oct. 19, 26, Nov. 2, 3–5 p.m.,
Berger Center
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 or concerts, go to Oakmontll.org, fill out a form with payment in the OVA office or pay at the door.

FALL CONCERT LINE-UP MARK YOUR CALENDARS!
Friday, September 18: Pamela Rose
Friday, November 6: Sonomusette
Friday, November 13: More Joy
Friday, December 18: The Bluebyrds
All concerts begin at 7 p.m. Tickets are \$25 each.

Strategies for Independence

■Carol Smith

FINANCIAL PLANNING
On Wednesday, August 19 at 3 p.m. at the East Rec. Center we will be pleased to have Oakmont resident Maureen Schwartz explain how reverse mortgages work. Better known as “equity release loans,” they can provide a monthly income and can allow your current mortgage payments to be stopped. They are an option to pay for services such as in-home care, assisted living and memory care. Because you borrow from your own equity, the income is not taxable. Maureen has been helping people get these loans for 19 years, and has taught classes on the subject as well. She will explain all the details and answer your questions, but of course everyone’s situation is unique. This is an opportunity to hear about an option you may not have previously considered. We are striving for independence, and after all, some extra knowledge won’t hurt.

Jewish Interest Group

■Howard Sidorsky

SCHEDULE OF EVENTS
Our last program, with Irene Hodes, the Associate Director of Development of the Jewish Community Relations Council of the Bay Area was very interesting and informative. Those that were able to attend in spite of the World Cup playoff were very appreciative. Going forward, there will be no programs or meetings in August or September. In August, I will be traveling and in September, our meeting date falls on Erev Yom Kippur. We are in need of ideas for our October and November meetings. For December, I am putting together our traditional Hanukkah event—latkes and klezmer music. Last year, this event was standing room only, and everyone including the band had a great time. Our normal meeting date and time is the 3rd Sunday of the month at 2 p.m. in the East Rec. Center, 7902 Oakmont Dr. In order for our group to continue with thoughtful, lively and interesting programs, we need to establish a program committee. If you are able to participate in this capacity, please send an email to howard@sidorsky.com.

Travel and Adventure

■September Holstad

SCENIC CRUISES AND TOURS VISITS OAKMONT
Scenic Cruises and Tours will be visiting the Travel and Adventure Club on Wednesday, August 26, 3–5 p.m. in the upper West Rec. Center. Scenic has both river and ocean cruises worldwide. They also have a wonderful selection of land tours. The land tours include Africa, Europe, US and Canada, Egypt, Japan, New Zealand and South America. Land and river/ocean cruises can be combined for a wonderful vacation. Please join us for the presentation where Kelly Hogan will show us the amazing destinations and ships, and answer all our questions. We hope you will join us for this informative meeting. In coming months we will be joined by Explora cruises, Swan Hellenic and next January we will welcome Tauck back to the travel club. You’re welcome to bring friends to learn about these exciting travel companies. We meet on the fourth Wednesday of the month from 3–5 p.m. There is no fee to join the club and attend the meetings. We do not meet in November or December because of the holidays.

InvestOAK

■Joe Pundyk

AI DATA CENTERS ARE BRINGING LOTS OF IMPORTANT CHANGES
The U.S. business world is adapting quickly to meet the demands of the new Artificial Intelligence “AI” World and learn how the Stock Markets are being affected. InvestOAK has been closely following this phenomenon and many of our members are using AI and realizing its exciting benefits. We are also studying the needs of the Data Centers to choose potential investment opportunities. In the upcoming August Meeting, original information in this endeavor, especially in the powering of the Data Centers will be presented. I hope you can join us for the above exciting times at our next meeting on Friday, August 21, in the Central Activities Center, Birch Room from 10–11.30 a.m.

Let’s Dance—Together!

■Terry Whitten

INTRODUCTION TO WEST COAST SWING
WHAT: Beginning West Coast Swing Partner Dance Classes
WHEN: Wednesdays, Sept. 2, 9, 16, 23 and 30 from 4–5:15 p.m.
WHERE: Lower West Rec.
COST: \$10 pp per class for 2 or more classes when purchased at same time; \$12 pp for a single class
RSVP: Please contact instructor, Terry Whitten to register in advance at twhitten@pacbell.net or call (415) 265-7590. Space may be limited
West Coast Swing (WCS) is the official state dance of California and is a popular partner dance in Sonoma County as well as throughout the US and the world. WCS was started in California in the 1940’s and is a smooth Swing dance that is usually danced to slower music than Jitterbug Swing. It is a fun and versatile dance that can be danced to a wide range of music including Rhythm and Blues, Rock, contemporary Pop tunes and Country. These classes will be geared towards those who have never done WCS before or those who want a review of the most basic 5-6 steps. As before, no partners or experience are required. We will generally rotate partners during the classes, although rotating will be optional. Also, any ladies that want to lead and any men that want to follow are very welcome. Aside from being fun and a great way to get exercise, a number of studies have shown that partner dancing on a regular basis may reduce the possibility of cognitive decline and may actually increase mental acuity. It can also help improve balance and uplift our spirits. To register and for any questions, please contact me at twhitten@pacbell.net or call (415) 265-7590.





Pet Grooming
6574 Oakmont Drive, Suite C
For Appointments Call:
707-535-6097 or 707-843-4007

Movies At Oakmont



WHERE: Berger Center
SCREENING DAY AND TIME: Sundays at 2 p.m.
HOSTS: Mike McInnis, Deborah Davidson, Jeff Neuman and Barbara Marquardt.



NOTE: All films are shown with English subtitles, when possible, free of charge—compliments of OVA.

AUGUST 9: MICHAEL
The early life of musician Michael Jackson, from the discovery of his talent as the lead of the Jackson Five to the artist whose creative ambition fueled a pursuit to become the biggest entertainer in the world. 2026, PG-13, 2:07.



AUGUST 16:
THE ADAM PROJECT
After accidentally crash-landing in 2022, time-traveling fighter pilot Adam Reed teams up with his 12-year-old self for a mission to save the future. 2022, PG-13, 1:46.



AUGUST 23: PRESSURE
In the tense 72 hours before D-Day, General Dwight D. Eisenhower and Captain James Stagg face an impossible choice—launch the most dangerous seaborne invasion in history or risk losing the war altogether. 2026, PG-13, 1:40.

Canine Club



Steve Huntley

WORLD’S UGLIEST DOG CONTEST

This coming Friday, August 14 is the World’s Ugliest Dog Contest to be held right here in Santa Rosa at the Sonoma County Fairgrounds. Last year’s winner was a very cute two-year-old hairless Frenchie and English Bulldog mix from Eugene, Oregon named Petunia. The contest starts at 6 p.m. Hope to see you there!



Cabo.

Need a dog walker, sitter, or trainer here in Oakmont? No need to go any further than the Canine Club’s website (www.oakmontcanineclub.org) where we post a list of walkers, sitters, and trainers, some of whom are Oakmont residents.

We are still looking for a couple more Happy Tails Dog Park volunteers. We try to have a different volunteer each day of the week plus a couple more for backup when folks are out of town. Just shoot Peri Olinger an email at periolinger@yahoo.com if you would like to volunteer.

A reminder that every day from 9–10 a.m. (through the end of October) the Happy Tails Dog Park is reserved for small dogs (25 lbs. or less)! The next special play date at the dog park is the Rescue Dog / Mixed Breed Play Date on Saturday, August 29, 10 a.m.–noon.

And another reminder that some of the greatest dangers to dogs during the hot summer are dehydration, heat stroke, hot cars, and hot pavement. Tips: easy access to cool, clean water and plenty of shade.

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! Benefits include a weekly newsletter, an annual club picnic, annual Members’ Appreciation Party at the Wild Oak Saddle Club, and various other social events throughout the year.



Cooper.



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Greg Fauss

ICE CREAM SOCIAL ON JUNE 9!

Join us from 11:45 a.m.–12:30 p.m. on August 9 at the Berger Center for an Ice Cream Social!



With Grandparent’s Week in the history books and August heating up we figured it can’t hurt to have some ice cream! Feel free to join us for our church service beforehand or just come by at 11:45.

Our Sunday services are at 10:30 a.m. in the Berger Center.

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

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■Nani Tosoc

MONTHLY BIRTHDAY LUNCHEON
“Your love for sports will open doors to new friendships and connections.”—Chinese fortune cookie
My cookie described perfectly the OTC’s lunch celebration on July 23 at the China Village restaurant at St. Francis Shopping Center. Skillfully organized by the master of ceremonies (and my favorite curmudgeon), Pete Hogan, these get-togethers are a

chance for tennis friends to break bread, tell tall tales of tennis matches past, and to celebrate the gang’s birthdays. This month’s celebrants, Tony, Maureen and Corey, were regaled with song (in-tune rendition of “Happy Birthday”), ale, and cakes. Bob Fletcher’s skillful use of chopsticks was noted. Delicious food, wonderful hosts and servers, and Horwitz’s timely one-liners made it a fun time for all.

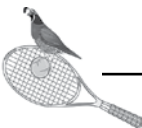
■Maureen McGettigan



ANNUAL MIXER A SUCCESS
The Women’s niners and the Men’s niners golf groups held their annual mixer on July 23 for 40 players. It was a perfect day for golf and a delicious

lunch that was provided by the ladies followed the event. A good time was had by all.
Both groups invite new players. Call Kathy Camp, (707) 318-1121 or Tony D’Agosta, (707) 349-6611.

Tennis Club



Pictured clockwise from top left: (little) Tony Schmoll, Don Buckley, Corey Hudson, Bill Nasi, Maureen Pennal, Pete Hogan, Bob Fletcher, Armando Zimmerman, Dave Sokolsy, Arnie Herskovic, Dave Norris, Jack Horwitz, Ron Allen and Jack Breibart. Not pictured: Reed Davis and Nani Tosoc.

New to Oakmont? Come join the OTC gang for pick-up games on any of these days, locations, and times:
Sundays: West Rec., 3 p.m., rotating doubles play, food and refreshments break at 4:30. Bring drink or food to share. Organized by Lou Lacson et al.
Monday and Tuesday: East Rec., 9:30 a.m. Rotating doubles play. Organized by Pete Hogan.
Thursday: East Rec., same as Tuesday. West Rec., 8:30 a.m. Organized by (big) Tony Agocs. Random draw doubles play, 4 game sets.
Saturday: West Rec., 8:30 a.m. Organized by Tony Agocs. Same as Thu.
Want to work on your tennis skills individually? At both the east and west courts, the nearby tennis huts house Lobster (hitting) machines to work on your groundstrokes. Contact hellooakmonttennis@gmail.com for more information.
Coming Up: Buckaroo Social, August 22, 8:30 a.m., West Courts

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Conservatives Club

■Jane Gyorgy

NON-PARTISAN CONSTITUTION DAY EVENT SEPTEMBER 12, 9-4

The Conservatives Club of Oakmont is hosting a Constitution Day celebration Saturday, September 12, 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. at the Berger Center. The event was developed in partnership with Eagle Forum.

“Constitution Day, a federally recognized observance established by Congress in 1952 and made a federal holiday in 2004, is held each year on September 17 to commemorate the signing of the U.S. Constitution in 1787, and requires public schools and government offices to provide educational programs to promote a better understanding of the Constitution. Written in 1787, ratified in 1788, and in operation since 1789, the United States Constitution is the world’s longest surviving written charter of government. Its first three words—‘We the People’—affirm that the government of the United States exists to serve its citizens. For 250 years, the Constitution has remained in force because its framers wisely separated and balanced governmental powers to safeguard the interests of majority rule and minority rights, of liberty and equality, and of the federal and state governments.” <https://www.senate.gov/about/origins-foundations/senate-and-constitution/constitution-day.htm>



Scene at the Signing of the Constitution of the United States by Howard Chandler Christy.

This is a non-partisan event. It will open with flag salute, followed by live music and a program of guest speakers discussing the history and meaning of the Constitution, including the freedoms protected by the First Amendment. Brad Dacus of the Pacific Justice Institute will serve as master of ceremonies. Other planned speakers include Nick Shirley (TBC), Orlean Koehle, Tom DeWeese, Jerrolyn Olson, Bill Evers, PhD, Samantha Waldroup, and Reagan Hanks.

The day will include lunch, a cash raffle, an art auction, and vendor tables. Funds raised from the auction and raffle go to scholarships for students.

Open to Oakmont residents and their guests. RSVP required. The fee is \$50 per person in advance (drop your check to: The Conservatives Club, in the club folder in the OVA office by Sept. 8). For additional information, contact TheNewOakmontCC@gmail.com.

Valley of the Moon Rotary Club

■Valerie Hulsey and Cheryl Malseed

A HAPPY HOUR CLUB

The members of the Valley of the Moon Rotary Club are very excited to tell you about our upcoming changes. We are no longer going to be a morning club—we are going to be a Happy Hour Club.

Starting on August 10 we will meet on the second and third Mondays of each month at the West Recreation Center (upstairs) here in Oakmont. The actual meeting will be from 4-5 p.m. but we encourage everyone to join us at 3:30 for a little wine, beer or sparkling water and 30 minutes of socialization and fun.

We hope this new format will inspire those of you who know what we do to check out how we can continue the good work and enjoy each other in that effort. It won’t be dull!!

A suggested \$10 donation will be gratefully accepted at the door to help keep our club strong.

VOM ROTARIANS VISIT THE SIERRA GARDEN

On Saturday, June 29, VOM Rotarians had a field trip to visit their Special Project, the Sierra Garden. They were able to remember what had been done and to see the changes of the Garden.

The Sierra Garden is located behind the Hood Mansion, next to CalFire. In 2000 when VOM Rotary Club was formed their first project was building a shed with an adjoining greenhouse at the Sierra Garden. Years later, VOM Rotary built a pergola. The Special Projects enabled the Sierra Garden in growing fruits and vegetables, mentoring girls from Los



Guilicos Correction Center, teaching them culinary skills and offering the local community a Saturday Morning Market. Fast forward, the girl’s correction center was moved to a different location and the Glass Fire burned the shed, green house and pergola.

Presently, the Sierra Garden is alive and well. Volunteers, working Saturday and Monday mornings, are continuing to raise various fruits and vegetables. Now all produce is donated to FISH (Friends in Service Help). The gardeners are proud to say over 5,300 pounds of produce were donated in both 2024 and 2025.

The Sierra Garden is always looking for more volunteers. Are you looking for volunteer opportunities or for a gardening project? Stop by and check them out. If you have question feel free to contact Cheryl Malseed, (805) 815-8877.

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■Barbara Kendrick

Oakmont Birders

BIRDS WORTH WATCHING: OLIVE-SIDED FLYCATCHERS

August is a quiet time for birds. With mating and parenting mostly done, they seem to retreat into the dense summer foliage for R&R before starting to prepare for migration or overwintering.

Because there are few birds to be seen here now, let's discuss one that you're unlikely to see right in Oakmont but should know about anyway because it's fun (and nearby): the Olive-sided Flycatcher (OSF).



OSF with vest on preferred leafless perch. (Photo by Tom Grey)

You can find the OSF just across Highway 12 in the Mayacamas hills from late spring to early fall. A bit smaller than a robin, it's mostly gray (forget the "olive") but has a pale inverted "V" on its chest—so it appears to be wearing a vest. It has a stout bill, and its head often looks peaked.

The OSF appeals to birdwatchers for several reasons. First, it perches at the top of dead trees or on

bare snags, away from any foliage, so it's easy to see. Second, it feeds by sallying out from this spot after bees and other insects, and then returns to the exact same perch—so once you find it, you know where to keep looking. And third, it has an unmistakable three-note song, which it sings loudly throughout the summer breeding season. This song is a very clear "Quick, three beers!"—like an on-the-run outlaw who ducks into a bar for hasty refreshment. Once you hear it, it's unforgettable.

This flycatcher is highly territorial and will try to drive off other birds in its domain. For some reason it seems to tolerate Western Tanagers, and often you can see both birds in the same area, high in the trees. Look and listen for Olive-sided Flycatchers in Hood or Sugarloaf Parks at the very top of tall conifers.

Have a bird question? Want a "Birds Seen in Oakmont" checklist? Send email to bkendrick@jps.net.



Western Tanager wondering if it gets to share a beer. (Photo by Tom Grey)

Oakmont Pétanque Club

■Don McPherson

WE CELEBRATE 30TH ANNIVERSARY

The Oakmont Pétanque Club celebrated with a 30th anniversary cake at its annual Bastille Day Fête on July 11.



Pétanque Club 30th Anniversary Cake.

Oakmont pétanque traces its origins to the Rovers RV Club. In 1984, new Oakmonters and experienced pétanque players Sumner and Nicole Reed began bringing their boules to play on monthly RV trips. The dirt fields and gravel parking lots of campgrounds proved ideal. Soon other Rovers Club members took an interest.

By 1986-87, the RV pétanque group also began playing wherever they could in Oakmont and others began to join in. Early in the 1990s they started searching for a permanent site. The favored, centrally located space was an undeveloped, rough, uneven patch of weeds and rocks next to the Shuffleboard Courts that is the current site of the Pétanque Courts. The group asked OVA to designate the site.

On September 21, 1996, the newly formed Oakmont Pétanque Club adopted a succinct, six-sentence, four-paragraph set of By-Laws stating just two purposes: "to obtain a playing field for this sport" and "to promote interest in the game among residents of Oakmont." Howard Seacord submitted the By-Laws as the club's first "Chairman and Groundskeeper, etc."

In 1998, a work crew undertook building of a proper terrain with their own tools. They collected member contributions, asked landscape supply yards for discounts and donations, and used a member's pickup to deliver materials. They leveled and surfaced the ground and literally tamped it down by stomping. Many court and equipment improvements have since been funded by OVA and club member donations to give Oakmont an excellent recreational pétanque facility.

Howard Seacord was succeeded by Betty Seacord, co-chairs Nancy LaPorte and Max Hinchman, Max Hinchman, Richard Goodwin, and current Chair Steven Payette. The club currently has 85 rostered members and plays friendly, casual games at 9:45 a.m. on Mondays, Wednesdays, and Saturdays at the courts between Berger and the OVA offices. The no-dues club warmly welcomes new members and has boules to lend while you're learning so you'll be playing right away.



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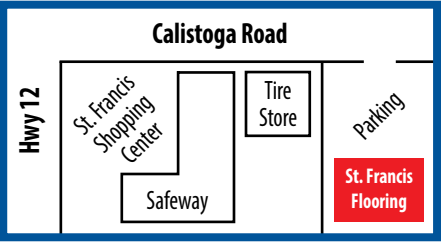


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■Mary C Blake

Lawn Bowling



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Email us at oakmontlawnbowling@gmail.com.

TOURNAMENTS

Open Triples: First round of our Open Triples Tournament had 18 bowlers on three rinks. The winning teams were:
Rink 2: Steve Pickell, Pam Dempsey, and Nancy Crawford. They also won the bye with the most points.
Rink 5: Barbara Serafin, Mary Blake, and Topher Gayle.
Rink 6: Jim Krause, Bob Hoffman, and Wilma Rolland.



Open Triples bowlers: Steve Pickell, Pam Dempsey, Nancy Crawford, Michelle Macintosh, Linda Pickell and Tom Ternullo.

The quarter-final round between Barbara’s team and Jim K’s team is scheduled for August 1.
Women’s Triples: Due to too many unforeseen circumstances, the women’s triples tournament has been postponed to Saturday, August 8, at 9:30 a.m.
Evening Games: The landscaping crew will be verticutting the Green the last Tuesday of each month. When the weather permits, we’ll offer an evening game on those days.
COMING EVENTS
Saturday, August 8: Women’s Triples, 9:30 a.m.
Thursday, August 13: After 5 Potluck, 5 p.m.
Friday, August 21: Women’s Singles, 9:30 a.m.
If you forget a date, you can find a calendar on our website, in your Green Book, and on our bulletin boards.

TIP OF THE DAY

There’s a bit of a dance to getting onto and off the mat. The game goes a little more smoothly, and more quickly (and you’re less likely to run into someone) if you do the same circle each time you roll: (1) pick up your bowl and stand behind the person rolling (so you’re out of their line of sight), (2) when they step off, you step forward onto the mat, (3) roll your perfect bowl, and (4) step off the mat to the right (towards your waiting bowl). Repeat.

ARM EXTENDER

The second Arm Extender has arrived! Try it out!
Email: oakmontlawnbowling@gmail.com
Website: www.oakmontlawnbowling.com

Domino Club



■Brian Huckins

MIX THOSE DOMINOS

The Oakmont Domino Club meets every Thursday morning at 9:30 a.m. in the Central Activity Center Card Room.
We play the popular Five-up Game (more commonly referred to as the San Francisco Five-up Game). Two, three or four can play. The four-handed or partners game is our preferred format.
A slight wager has been known to add to the interest. It is easy to learn and anyone who can add, subtract and divide can play the game. The fundamentals are simple and can be learned quickly. The finer points can be managed with a little study and practice.
Looking for players of all abilities to join. Lessons are available.
Please contact me at (415) 602-9083 or bvhuckins@gmail.com.

Oakmont Squares



■Barbara Wooley

FREE SQUARE DANCING DEMO AND ICE CREAM SOCIAL—AUG. 18!

Oakmont Squares invites all Oakmont residents, and their friends, to a free Modern Square Dancing demonstration and Ice Cream Social on Tuesday, August 18, 6:30 p.m. at the East Rec. Center. Come see what Modern Square Dancing is all about. We think you will agree that it is perfect for improving physical health, mental sharpness, and social connections.
Oakmont Squares will begin our Modern Square Dancing classes on Tues., Aug. 25 from 7–9 p.m. at the East Rec. Center. No partner is necessary. Casual dress and a willingness to give it a whirl are all that is required.
See us at Join a Club Night on Thursday, August 13. The Oakmont Squares meet Tuesday evenings from 7–9 p.m. at the East Rec. Center. Come dance in a square and make a circle of friends. For more information or to get on the mailing list, call Jenny at (707) 367-2102.



Photo by Barbara Wooley.

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■Charles Ensley

Kiwanis Club of Oakmont



KIWANIS SUPPORTS LA LUZ AND LOCAL SCHOOLS

I'd love to tell you how our August 8 Carnitas and Margarita Dinner and Silent Auction turned out, but it may be either hours away or a couple of days ago as you read this article. Suffice it to say, it's our largest fund-raiser of the year, and a lot of fun. We depend on it to provide funds for the many local agencies that help children, women and families in need.

One such agency is La Luz, for 40 years located in Boyes Hot Springs area. Each year it serves more than 2,000 individuals, offering essential support ranging from basic needs assistance and preschool readiness to immigration services and economic advancement. It assists many Hispanic adults with English language programs, provides backpacks and school supplies each fall and Christmas gifts to children who might otherwise experience a very sparse holiday. Pictured above is Direct Services Coordinator, receiving our semi-annual check from our club president Bob Isaacs.



Photo by Charles Ensley.

We fund Kid Scoop News each month to classrooms at Luther Burbank Elementary School in Santa Rosa. With the closure of several elementary schools, they now have so many students that they must hold two assemblies to reach the entire school enrollment. Our club provides their only funding for library books.

We've had several inquiries lately about our next biannual Shredathon. It will be Thursday, October 29 at Berger Center, 9 a.m. to noon or earlier if the truck is full! Put it on your calendar now! Our limit is equivalent to five banker boxes. Voluntary contributions donated at the event assist in funding our many worthy activities.

Kiwanis meets in Berger Center Fireside area Thursdays at 8 a.m. for breakfast and at 8:30 for club business and a program at 9. Guests are always welcome for a free breakfast. For more information contact me at (707) 623-9564.

New to Oakmont?

Meet with a volunteer from the New Resident Welcome Committee to learn about everything Oakmont. Contact us at welcome@oakmontvillage.com. The Welcome Packet is available at oakmontvillage.com/article/new-resident-welcome-packet.

Asian Pacific Heritage and Culture Club

■Gary Andersen



CHINATOWN DAY BUS TRIP WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 26

Tickets are only \$40, thanks to generous support from the Oakmont Community Foundation.

The Asian Pacific Club invites you to join us on a special day in Chinatown. We have a 36-passenger Pure Luxury Bus to take us to and from Chinatown for two museum guided tours with time for shopping and lunch on your own. Departure time from the Berger lot is 8:30 a.m.

The first stop is the Chinese Historical Society Museum where we will have a guided tour of the museum including special emphasis on the Bruce Lee exhibit. Following that, it's lunch and shopping on your own and then meet again at the Magic Showgirl Museum for a personal guided tour by Cynthia Yee, former Miss Chinatown and founder of the Grant Avenue Follies.

The bus will pick us up there for our return to Oakmont. We should arrive back by 4:30 p.m.

A total of 18 seats are available for Oakmont residents who are not members of the club. If you would like to join us, go to the OVA office and look in the Asian Pacific Club folder where you will find the sign-up list. Just complete the information and leave a check for \$40 per ticket.

For any questions, call or text me at (360) 778-9604.



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In the private gated community of Wild Oak you'll find this uniquely customized home at the end of a cul-de-sac with a panoramic view of the Wild Oak Saddle Club polo field. This home was updated from top to bottom with an open kitchen and refreshed bathrooms. The homeowner also updated the flooring, painted inside and out, smoothed walls and rounded corners throughout the home, added interior lighting and doors, including closets, plus much more. The roof, furnace, air conditioning and ducting were replaced, and an interior electrical sub-panel was added. There is a formal living room with vaulted open beam ceiling and fireplace, in addition to a formal dining room with glass doors to the garden. The eat-in kitchen opens to the family room with fabulous views. Two sets of french doors lead to the wrap around deck where there's plenty of space to relax and enjoy sunsets and the wildlife that frequent the neighborhood. **\$1,069,000**



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Oakmont Health Initiative Free Fitness Classes

■Charlene Bunas

DOG DAYS OF SUMMER

Little fluffies and big ‘n’ strong canines are on sidewalks, dog parks and in Oakmont backyards. Their walking companions are those who love, cuddle and cuddle them. Could these pets be called “spoiled?”

Cries of “No” are heard in deafening decibels. “Not my fur baby, not my sweet companion.” In 2024, \$151,000,000 was spent on these beloved creatures.

But, what about the comfort and care of these owners? Who looks after them? Who is concerned with their diet, exercise and health? Who can they trust to care about them? A glance in the mirror provides part of the answer.

This article begins a series addressing the topic: “Living the Good Life.” It will cover aspects of exactly what makes feeling fine.

Not rocket science, it’s common sense. And there’s no way around answering, “how to live the good life?” without including “diet and exercise.”

Without personal dietitians, Oakmonters turn to WHO.inc for an overview of “healthy diet.” For specifics, google “What is a healthy diet for a senior aged woman/man?” Google will ask more detailed questions re: activities and weight. Be honest! From there, guidelines are suggested, menus are provided.

Exercise is the foundation of Oakmont Health Initiative: three mornings of aerobic/stretching/weights in complete body/mind workouts. For less strenuous exercise, start with guidance from trainer John at the gym or through various exercise clubs and groups.

Define and follow a personal diet/exercise diary for one month. Thirty days! Piece of cake. Or cantaloupe.

“Health is a state of complete physical, mental and social well-being and not merely the absence of disease” (WHO.int). For 30 days, provide self-care with the nurturing you give to treasured pets. Then smile at the reflection in the mirror.

Zoom: 850-1489-7161/998608.



Beloved pets are part of family. (Photos from Charlene Bunas)



Wii Bowling Oakmont Lanes

■Terry Leuthner

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

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

2 p.m. League: 8 teams, 4 bowlers per team. Each bowler bowls 3 games and has his /her own handicap (80%) and average. See www.oakmontlanes.com for club information, bowling dates, week results and team schedules to bring cookies and help setup at 1 p.m. and tear down equipment at 3:30 p.m.

Summer League Playoffs: Tuesday, Aug 4, 2 p.m. Top 4 teams (4 Tops, On Strike, Alley Oops and High Rollers) bowl three games and the team with the highest total pins (with team handicap) wins the Team Championship and gets their Team Name on the Team Championship Trophy.

Fall League: Tuesday, Aug 11. Fall 2026 League

Water Fitness



■Valerie Hulsey

We are back at the West Pool, but Mary will be on vacation until Monday, August 31 when she will again be teaching on Mondays and Wednesdays at 9:30 a.m. The refurbished pool looks great, and both the weather and the water are toasty warm (most days). There is a drop-in fee of \$10. We look forward to seeing you soon.

Julie will be teaching on Tuesdays at 10 a.m. All fitness levels are welcome! There is a \$10 drop-in fee.

Meditation

■Joanne Davey

MEDITATING TOGETHER WEEKLY MEDITATION SESSIONS AT CAC

“Just watching an animal closely can take you out of your mind and bring you into the present moment, which is where the animal lives all the time—surrendered to life.”—Eckhart Tolle

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

Saturdays at 10:30 a.m. in the CAC Building, 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.

Strength and Balance Class

■Valerie Hulsey

MARY’S FITNESS CLASS

Mary will be on vacation for most of August so the next balance class will be on August 28 at 9:30 a.m. at the East Rec, Center. Not only do we work on our balance skills we have lots of fun doing so. The laughter in the room is always contagious.

Everyone is welcome to join the class. There is a \$10 drop-in fee and don’t forget to bring your TheraBand for strengthening. If you don’t have one you can purchase one for \$5 when you arrive.



starts, ends beginning of December with Christmas Party on Dec 10 at East Recreation Center.

Join-A-Club Night: Thursday, Aug 13. Oakmont Lanes Club will setup two bowling lanes from 6–7:30 p.m. at the Berger Center for Join-a-Club Night. Set-up time 5:30 p.m.

Bowling dates for August: Aug. 11 (week #1—Fall League starts), 18 (week #2). No bowling Aug. 25 (fourth Tuesday).

RESULTS AS OF JULY 21 (WEEK #10 FINAL WEEK SUMMER LEAGUE)

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

Men’s High Games: Gordon Freedman, 279; Glenn Hewitt, 266; Charlie Ensley, 259; Don Shelhart, 259; Scott Harris, 238; Richard Adamczyk, 225; Joe Bernal, 213; Rob Warren, 202.

Women’s High Games: Joanne Abrams, 300; Robin Schudel, 297; Laurel Earles, 268; Joanne Bender, 258; Peggy Ensley, 248; Shirley Jamison, 247; Karen Palmiotti, 236; Vickie Jackanich, 232; Valerie Hulsey, 226; Thea Holladay, 222; Carol Garneau, 212.

See you on August 11!

Oakmont Boomers



■Carolita Carr

SUN KINGS SOLD OUT

That’s correct, our Beatles tribute show is sold out. If you were able to register for this show and for some reason are unable to attend, please contact us through our website, oakmontboomers.org, and we will fill your seats from our wait list. We would like to see every seat filled with happy attendees!

Up next is Trivia night, September 17. This is a free event. Come test your knowledge of Boomer culture.

Our next dance will be October 24. It will be Halloween with the Jacob Benning Band. The charge will be \$30 per person.

About registering for events: We can’t say this enough... make sure you are a current member. If you experience trouble purchasing on the site, it might be that you need to renew.

Not a member? Sign up on our website. \$15 per person per year.

A word to our attendees: We would appreciate it if we all could keep our conversations down while a board member or performer is speaking to the audience. Our aim is to provide an enjoyable experience for everyone at our events. Please be courteous to those around you.

Why Homes Burn in a Wildfire

■Roger Biery, Firewise Task Force

What poses the greatest risk to homes in Oakmont Village during a wildfire? Flying embers. To appreciate the significance of this threat it is necessary to understand the various ways homes can ignite during a wildfire.

With certain exceptions for some homes on the outside perimeter of Oakmont, the first house to catch fire in a contiguous cluster of homes will ignite directly or indirectly from flying embers. Direct ignition occurs, for example, when embers enter the attic or crawl space through vents, or accumulate around the foundation at the base of combustible siding.

Indirect ignition occurs when embers ignite landscaping or something else near the home, such as a combustible fence, shed or furniture, which then ignites the home via direct flame contact or radiant heat, the other two ways fire spreads.

During the 2017 Tubbs Fire, it was flying embers that crossed six lanes of Highway 101 to reach Coffey Park, where the fire spread structure-to-structure via embers, flames and radiant heat, destroying most of the homes in that community.

Within Oakmont Village, a suburban setting very similar to Coffey Park, flames and radiant heat will not cross a street, but flying embers will, potentially igniting another vulnerable house in another cluster, where flames and radiant heat will be able to ignite adjacent homes.

Protecting every home in Oakmont Village from flying embers could potentially prevent any home from burning during a wildfire. This is, of course, far easier said than done. But research shows (reported in an article titled “Fire risk to structures in California’s Wildland-Urban Interface” published in the 28 August 2025 edition of *Nature Communications* magazine available online at www.nature.com/articles/s41467-025-63386-2) that having defensible space, especially within five feet of the home, known as Zone Zero, combined with the hardening of homes in various ways, are proven to reduce losses during wildfires. The same study has also found that “substantial reductions in losses are achievable when community-wide actions can be applied.”

To learn more about the actions you can take to minimize community risk in Oakmont, visit us on the web at oakmontvillage.com/firewise-actions.

Table Tennis

■Herbert Ristock

WHY DO TABLE TENNIS PLAYERS SEEM TO AGE DIFFERENTLY?

Table Tennis is popular everywhere, including for example New Zealand. On July 6, the Auckland Table Tennis Association (<https://www.facebook.com/aucklandttofficial>) posted an article on Facebook, which is certainly also relevant to our Oakmont Table Tennis. Here is a summary.

Take a look around the table tennis club and you'll see players in their 60s, 70s, 80s—and even 90s—still moving, laughing, learning, and competing. That's what makes the sport special. While many people think ageing means slowing down, table tennis shows the opposite. Every match asks your body and mind to work together: react quickly, think strategically, stay balanced, and move with purpose.

You're not just exercising. You're building skills that matter every day. The game also keeps you growing. Players keep learning new serves, trying new tactics, and improving one small step at a time. The score matters, but so does the journey.

Table tennis reminds us that age is about more than birthdays. It's about staying curious, active, connected, and willing to learn. Table tennis isn't just for the young. It's a sport for life.

At Oakmont West Rec. you can play table tennis in our club on Tuesday and Thursday 3–5 p.m., Friday and Sunday 3–7 p.m. Please check our club's website www.sites.google.com/view/oakttclub for further information.



Café Mortel

■Linda Suhr

WHAT'S A DEMENTIA DIRECTIVE AND IS IT RIGHT FOR ME?

Many of you have heard me speak about my beloved Dave. Years ago, we dreamed of buying a sailboat and taking a long journey. When that dream began to feel possible, we decided to put our affairs in order and met with a trust attorney. Because Dave had watched both of his parents live for many difficult years with dementia, he included a specific statement in his Advance Health Care Directive outlining his wishes if he developed dementia. He wrote that if he had Alzheimer's Disease, could no longer converse with his family, and was receiving artificial hydration and nutrition, he wanted those measures stopped so he could die naturally.

Fast forward. Dave developed Alzheimer's disease and found himself in the exact situation he had described eight years before. As his health care agent, and knowing his ardent wishes, I had to make the decision to stop the IVs, arrange hospice care, and bring him home. Although the decision was deeply sad, I knew I was honoring his wish not to endure the final stage of dementia.

After Dave's death, I came to understand the vital importance of Advance Health Care Directives and Dementia Directives. I educated myself about these documents and now share what I've learned with others.

Some might disagree with Dave's choice, but he considered it carefully and, for him, it was right. He had the foresight to plan for this stage of life, and his wishes were honored because he clearly documented them. Today, several helpful templates are available for expressing future wishes in the event of dementia.

Please join us at Café Mortel on Wednesday, August 12, in the East Rec, 3–4:15 p.m., to learn about this option for dementia. I will review a sample template and share my experience. Come with your questions. All welcome!



Spirituality Collaborative

■Geoff Canham

JOIN THE DISCUSSION

The Spirituality Collaborative welcomes visitors to all our meetings who are interested in discussing the spiritual life. Our meetings are held on the second and fourth Tuesdays of each month at 4 p.m. in the Birch Room of the CAC.

We begin with a short meditation to bring our focus into the circle. At most meetings, our discussion is related to a topic that had previously been selected by the group. We often share resources, experiences or ideas and inspirations, and we value the sharing, diversity of viewpoints, and the collaboration of understanding and appreciation.

If you value shared reflective conversations, please join us at one of our upcoming meetings. We invite you to join our discussion.

For more information, contact Sue Aiken at slaiken5440@gmail.com or me at gcanham@cs.com.

Parkinson's Support Group

■Christine Nota

BALANCE AND AGILITY CLASS FOR ALL

The Parkinson's Support Group kindly invites all residents of our community to join our weekly exercise class, which is focused on balance and agility. Who doesn't need it at our age? We all do to stay healthy and accident-free.

Although the class was originally designed for Parkinson's needs, we have numerous non-Parkinson's participants who appreciate an active and thoughtful class focused on balance, agility, and maintaining the kind of movement needed for everyday activities and quality of life.

Our instructor is a highly qualified Physical Therapist with PD-Connect, a non-profit based in Marin and Sonoma County. She is very knowledgeable about movement and accommodating all needs and any limitations. The class is donation-based, which supports the non-profit.

The class meets every Tuesday at East Recreation, 9:30–10:30 a.m. Just show up ready to move and improve.

Summer Landscape Reminder

■Mary Lantz, Architectural Committee, Staff Member

Summer is the peak growing season, making it the perfect time to give your landscape a little extra attention. Plants can grow surprisingly fast this time of year, and routine maintenance not only keeps your property looking its best, but also helps maintain a safe, attractive, and Firewise community.

To help keep your landscape in compliance with Oakmont's Landscape and Firewise policies, please remember to:

- Keep your entire property free of weeds.
- Maintain front yard hedges at a maximum height of 3 feet to preserve visibility and the open character of Oakmont. Homeowners who prefer taller landscaping may wish to replace a continuous hedge with well-spaced specimen shrubs, which can provide height and visual interest while complying with Oakmont's landscape standards.
- Maintain side and rear yard hedges at a maximum height of 6 feet.
- Trim shrubs and trees back from sidewalks and roadways to provide safe clearance for pedestrians, passenger vehicles, delivery trucks, service vehicles, and emergency responders.
- Prune trees and shrubs to maintain clearance from roofs and eaves.
- Keep tree canopies and shrubs separated so branches and foliage are not growing into one another.
- Remove dead branches and overgrown vegetation to improve the health and appearance of your landscape.

Oleanders, in particular, can put on an impressive amount of growth during the summer months. While they provide beautiful color and privacy, they also require regular pruning to keep them from encroaching on sidewalks, driveways, neighboring properties, and sight lines at intersections.

Regular maintenance throughout the season is the easiest way to prevent small issues from becoming larger projects. Taking care of your landscape before concerns arise helps keep Oakmont looking its best and often eliminates the need for the Architectural Committee to become involved.

Oakmont Democratic Club



■Ida Egli

HAPPY 250TH BIRTHDAY, USA! NOW WHAT?

Why should Oakmonters save the date, September 14? To learn what California has on the November ballot that might curb the influence of big money in California's political elections. This is a bipartisan issue and people of all political persuasions are welcome to join us to learn more.

Let's flash back to 1787, the tense final days of the Constitutional Convention. Benjamin Franklin—who'd given more than almost anyone to unite the colonies—still had doubts about the republic's future. As Dr. James McHenry recorded in his diary, Elizabeth Willing Powel asked Franklin what the Convention had produced: "a republic or a monarchy?" Franklin's famous reply: "A republic, if you can keep it." (NPS.gov, "September 17, 1787: A Republic, If You Can Keep It")

Two hundred fifty years later, that republic endures. This leads us forward to September 14 and the Oakmont Democrats speaker event at the East Rec. at which time David Schmidt will tell us about California's November referendum, Proposition 4, the California Fair Elections Act, which will, if passed, open the door for public financing of state and local



David Schmidt.

candidates supported only by small donors.

I'm sure Ben Franklin would be curious about what David Schmidt is going to explain. We can nearly see his ears perking.

David Schmidt is the author of *Citizen Lawmakers: The Ballot Initiative Revolution and San Francisco Bay Area: An Environmental History*. He will also speak on the multiple state ballot measures that would, if passed, tax billionaires—or nullify the Billionaire Tax Initiative.

SPEAKER NIGHT: Mon., September 14, 6:30 p.m. Social, 7 p.m. Speaker Presentation. As always, bring a snack to share and a beverage of your choice.

OTHER MARK YOUR CALENDAR EVENTS

August 10, 4:30 p.m.: Annual Progressives Picnic, West Rec. Picnic Area. RSVP at website

September 25, 6 p.m.: Big Fundraiser, Berger Center Check out OakmontDemocraticAlliance.org

Editor's Note: The views and opinions expressed in this article are those of the club and do not reflect the official policy or position of the Oakmont Village Association.

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

INDULGE IN SELF-CARE

Offering age-corrective and hydration facials. Expert skincare by passionate licensed esthetician. Glow with O has 5-star reviews on Google! \$25 OFF your first visit for Oakmont residents! Call Oceana at (530) 307-2217, 990 Sonoma Ave. Unit 15A, Santa Rosa.

PETER’S LANDSCAPING

Lawn mowing, trimming bushes, removing weeds. Gutter cleaning. \$50 job minimum. Please call (707) 486-6684.

AIR CONDITIONING REPAIR

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

ENTRY DOORS, PATIO DOORS, INTERIOR DOORS

Installation. Local Suppliers. Father and son team, 30 years of experience. Brad Chiaravalle and Anthony Chiaravalle. Lic #527924. www.doorbeautiful.com. (707) 539-3196.

HOUSE CLEANING SERVICES IN OAKMONT

Regular cleaning, deep cleaning, and move-out cleaning. 15 years of experience. Pease call Noemi at Noemicleaning, LLC, (707) 228-2114.

A COMPANION/CAREGIVER/ PERSONAL AIDE

Certified Medical Assistant, Retired Professional Driver. 20-year experience of everything from companion care to medical care, including driving to doctor’s appointments and taking informed notes. Also, light housework and cooking. Please call Paula, (707) 703-6231.

WINDOW AND PRESSURE CLEANING SERVICES

Windows, screens, gutters, pressure cleaning. Homes, decks, patios, walkways and driveways. Holiday special free estimates. Contact Dennis Russo, (707) 249-3343.

MARTHA L PROFESSIONAL HOUSE CLEANING

Home, office, move-outs. Window, bed linens and much more. 19+ years of experience. References upon request. 548-9482 or marthal1041@att.net.

YOUR FRIENDLY HANDYMAN

Oakmont’s trusted resource for carpentry, drywall, electrical, plumbing installation and assembly. Fair hourly rate. Call (707) 881-7292. Website: www.thehandylance.com.

ONE WAY PLUMBING, INC.

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

LOVELY LANDSCAPING BY MDL LANDSCAPES

Google 5 stars. Oakmont references. Santa Rosa Chamber Member. Call David at (707) 536-6048. Visit our website: www.mdlandscapes.net. License #1044507.

ERIC WILSON, REMODELING SPECIALISTS

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

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Dependable, insured SFO rides. Free quotes: ridewitherik.com. Call or text at (707) 888-9308.

GOTOGUY HANDYMAN SERVICES LLC

Senior-friendly service. Small jobs welcome. Dry rot repair, fence and deck repairs, gutter cleaning, pressure washing, sprinkler repairs, fire mesh installation, light electrical and home maintenance. Free estimates. References available. Call/text Cooper, (707) 227-4187.

BABE’S TRANSPORTATION

Private Transfers to all airports, medical apps. (local and out of town), wine tours, etc. Rides 24/7. Commercially licensed and insured, in compliance with airports, TCP #40474. Drop off and pick up at the curve of your airline. Male and female drivers, can carry 1–7 people + luggage. Professional, safe, dependable service from a company that does it right. Check our reviews on yelp. (707) 545-2850, www.babestransport.com.

BEST DOG WALKER IN OAKMONT

Excellent reference. Loving, patient and dependable, your fur baby will love me! \$25 per responsible, attentive walk. Please call or text Annette, (619) 993-6834. Looking forward to meeting our and your dog.

CHUCK’S COMPUTER SERVICES

On-Site Computer cleanup and tune-ups. Virus and malware removal. Wi-Fi, printer and email setup in your home. Also offering digitizing of 8mm and Super 8 film. Proudly serving Oakmont for 13+ years. \$65/hr. 1-hr. min. Film digitizing priced per job. Call or text Chuck, (707) 293-8011.

MICHELLE RENÉE SF

Luxury hair extensions, custom and partial hair systems, hair loss solutions. Private appointments. Concierge on-location services. 30+ years of experience. Call (415) 225-4444 or email MichelleRenee.com.

FOUNTAIN GROVE GOLF MEMBERSHIP FOR SALE

Club-approved transfer. Please inquire about membership payment/term flexibility. Call M Levy, (415) 225-4444 or email michellerenee007@icloud.com.

YOUR FRAU FRIDAY

Housedcleaning, cooking, light yard work, errands. Contact Erin, (707) 860-6376. References, reasonable rates.

POWERCORE CLEANING SOLUTIONS

Your trusted team for keeping homes clean, safe, and looking their best. Housekeeping, power washing, solar panel cleaning, bird proofing, window cleaning (interior and exterior), gutter cleaning, house soft washing and more. Licensed and insured! Call Eric Guerra at (707) 331-6024.

GALUS PAINTING

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

VOM PLUMBING

We are a local plumbing company that can take care of all your plumbing needs, from service and repair to remodels and additions. Call today to schedule a free estimate. (707) 800-2043.

HOUSECLEANING

Reliable, honest, and experienced residential housecleaning by Josefina. Excellent references. Responsible. Professional. Free estimates. Monthly, weekly, or bi-weekly. Guaranteed thorough work. Quality and consistent results at competitive rates. Call (707) 799-6465.

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
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**

August 1–15
Colleen Keegan 925-487-4014

August 16–31
Bev Leve 707-539-2802

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

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

**LETTERS TO THE EDITOR
WRITER GUIDELINES**

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

POOLS & JACUZZIS

Access to OVA pools is by magnetic card. Call OVA Office, 707-539-1611 if you need a permanent new member pool access card or to register for a temporary guest pool access card.
WEST: 7 AM–9 PM
(Closes 7 PM Wednesdays for cleaning)
EAST: 6:30 AM–9 PM
(Closes 7 PM Mondays for cleaning)
CENTRAL: 5:45 AM–9 PM
(Closes 7 PM Tuesdays for cleaning)
JACUZZI HOURS: Same as facility. No one under 18 years in West and East pools and Jacuzzis.
CENTRAL POOL HOURS FOR PEOPLE UNDER 18:
Labor Day–Memorial Day: 11 AM–2 PM daily
Memorial Day–Labor Day: 11 AM–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 PAR KING**

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 9–10 AM 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.

**2026–2027
OVA BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

E-mail: askova@oakmontvillage.com

Steve Spanier, President
steve.spanier@oakmontvillage.com

Jeff Neuman, Vice President
jeff.neuman@oakmontvillage.com

Jess Marzak, Secretary
jmarzak@oakmontvillage.com

Terrie Mui, Director
terrie.mui@oakmontvillage.com

Matt Oliver, Director
matt.oliver@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 Hermosillo
District 1**

Phone 707-565-2241
Address: 575 Administration Drive,
Rm. 100A, Santa Rosa 95403
Email: rebecca.hermosillo@sonoma-county.org

**City Councilwoman Dianna MacDonald
District 3**

Email: dmacdonald@srcity.org
Address: City Hall, 100 Santa Rosa Ave.,
Rm.10, Santa Rosa 95404

PUBLIC TRANSPORTATION AVAILABLE IN OAKMONT

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

BE ON OVA E-MAIL LIST

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

■Liz O’Connell

**TODAY AND TOGETHER
LUNCHEON AND SPEAKER**
WHEN: Tuesday, August 11, 11:30 a.m.
LOCATION: Berger Center
COST: Catered luncheon—\$35
SPEAKER: Christina Gonzales, Hanna Center

All men and women are welcome.
Did you, he, or she forget? There is a growing need to support individuals and families faced with age-related dementia. Learn more about Today and Together, a program funded by the Center for Age Related Dementia Services (CARDS).
Today and Together is designed to help fill a gap in local services and provide meaningful, structured days for older adults who need more support, engagement,



Branch #92

and connection. Christina Gonzales will explain how they have created a space Monday–Friday from 8 a.m.–6 p.m. for daily activities, such as lunch, snacks, medication assistance, and even showers.
All activities are the individuals’ choice and also includes art, music, games, movement, conversation. Participants can move between activities based on what they enjoy and what feels right that day. It’s a personal choice.
One care partner said: “Parkinson’s is a disease of subtraction... you have to add in new activities when the old ones become too difficult.” Today and Together aims to add in new activities.
Contact Sherry Maggers at smagers9@gmail.com for luncheon menu and reservations.



At Today and Together Hanna Program.

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The LiftMaster Garage Door Belt Drive Opener, with built-in camera and 2-way communication, provides peace of mind that your garage is safe and secure. Model 87504-267

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Northern California’s premier source for all of your garage door needs. Serving homeowners and contractors since 1983.

Ladies Bunco Night

■Barbara Wooley

ROLL, CHAT, SNACK, LAUGH!
“Bunco!” “Triple!” “Throw me the bunco baby!”
“What number are we on?”
The answer is, “What are things heard at the Bunco table?” Bunco Ladies Night is a popular and fun activity held twice a month for Oakmont residents and their guests. Bunco is a simple, no skill required, dice game. Beginners are always welcome! Several players win cash prizes at the end of each night!
Our usual nights are the second and fourth Monday of each month, however, there are exceptions, so always check your Oakmont Events Calendar. Please arrive by 6:45 p.m. for check-in. Games run from 7-9 p.m.



At Bunco Ladies Night. (Photo by Roberta Nelson)

WHERE: Card Room, Central Activity Center
WHEN: 2nd and 4th Monday of each month (check Oakmont Events Calendar). Next meetings August 10 and 24.
TIME: 6:45 p.m. (play is about 1-1/2 to 2 hrs.)
FEE: A \$5 fee/night is required for each participant.
For information or to get on our email reminder list, contact Jill Butler at (760) 468-1743, email: jillivannili@sbcglobal.net.

Hikers



■Colleen Keegan

We welcome you to join us on a hike whether you are a member yet or not.
It’s important for members to RSVP in advance at www.oakmonthikingclub.org for each hike. Your reservation can be canceled if your plans change.
Bring water, lunch, hat, layers, sunscreen, and poles if you use them. Go to our website to join, get hike details, see photos, register for a hike and more. The annual membership is only \$15. Check our website for the latest updates.

AUGUST 13: OHC ANNUAL PICNIC

Lunch will be provided at the West Recreation picnic area. Club members must RSVP on the website for lunch. Check the site for the most up-to-date hike info.

AUGUST 13: LONG HIKE
ANNADEL STATE PARK

Randy Vincent will show us some hidden sights of the park right in our backyard. Approximately 5 miles and 800 feet of elevation. Meet at the West Rec picnic area at 8:30 a.m.

AUGUST 13: INTERMEDIATE HIKE
ANNADEL PARK AND CHANNEL DRIVE

Starting on the path to the Community Gardens, then we’ll walk the Channel Trail and Channel Drive (as far as we get before we turn around), returning the same way, arriving back at the picnic area by 11:45 a.m. Leave West Rec rear parking lot at 9 a.m. Leader is Florentia Scott, (707-591-1929).

AUGUST 20: LONG HIKE
JACK LONDON STATE PARK



We’ll hike the Fern Lake, Mountain, Fallen Bridge and Vineyard trails and journey through the original orchards on the property including apple, apricot, and plum trees. About 7.5 miles and 1,200 feet. Leave Berger at 8:30 a.m. Leader is Scott Finn, (619) 884-0977.

AUGUST 20: INTERMEDIATE HIKE
RODEO BEACH, COASTAL AND
MIWOK TRAILS



Our route travels along the bluffs above the Pacific Ocean with a couple small detours to Battery Townsley and Hill 88, the former launch site for Cold War missiles. Enjoy beautiful views of the ocean and surrounding landscape. Although steep with some stairs, this hike is worth the effort. 5.2 miles, 1,049 feet. Leave Berger at 8:30 a.m. Leader is Gary Andersen, (360)-778-9604.

SEPTEMBER 28-OCTOBER 1:
FALL TRI-NIGHTER

It’s time to make your hotel reservations at the Best Western Plus Sonora Oaks, a highly-rated, wooded retreat in the Sierra foothills. See website for details and to RSVP.



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The Power of 2



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189 Oak Shadow Drive
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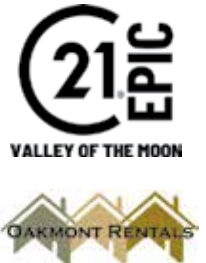
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