OAKMONT NEWS

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Brockman Honored with Legacy Award

■Jackie Ryan, News Staff

For more than a decade, Oakmont grandparents who show up with their grandkids for a week of bustling activities in late July, report a certain phenomenon. Leslie Brockman appears to be doing everything everywhere all at once. Indeed, Brockman has figured out how to pop in at every class, hand out encouragement to her many volunteers and greet the children by name.

Her name, after all, is inextricably linked with Grandparents Week, and the OVA Board of Directors has honored her as the inaugural recipient of the Legacy Award, which recognizes sustained, exceptional service for its lasting impact on Oakmont.



Board President Steve Spanier with Leslie Leslie Brockman. (Photo by Julie Kiil)

See **LEGACY AWARD** on page 5

2027 Board Election: Call for Board Candidates

■Oakmont Village Association

Candidate nominations for election to the Oakmont Village Association Board of Directors are open. There are four (4) board seats up for election.

Those who are interested in running can submit their candidacy in one of three ways.

1. Enter it online at pro-ei.com/hoa/oakmont (preferred method);
2. Email the form that was sent to you from Pro Elections via email or post mail to info@pro-ei.com, or mail it to PO Box 390, Murphys, CA 95247 (if sent by mail, it is your responsibility to make sure Pro Elections receives it by the deadline);
3. Send an email to info@pro-ei.com that includes your name, the name of your association, and your property address within the association.

If, at the close of the time period for making nominations, there are the same number or fewer qualified candidates as there are board positions to be filled, then the board of directors may, after voting to do so, seat the qualified candidates by acclamation without balloting.

Candidacy submissions must be received by the Inspector of Elections by end of day January 15, 2027. A Pre-Ballot Notice will be sent on Jan. 29, 2027. Ballots will be sent on March 4, 2027. Deadline for ballots to be received by Pro Elections is April 4, 2027. The election is scheduled for Apr. 5, 2027.

Election information is available online at pro-ei.com/hoa/Oakmont.

Board Approves 2027 Budget

■Jackie Ryan

The OVA Board of Directors unanimously approved a $7.8 million fiscal year 2027 budget, with dues increasing 3.7% over last year from $134 to $139 per member.

OVA Treasurer Tom Kendrick said projected expenses are about $6.1 million across several categories.

He said several 2026 operations categories are under budget, and the resulting surplus will be placed in reserves. The budget calls for an $800,000 transfer to the Asset Replacement Fund (ARF) including another $100,000 from earned interest on ARF balances. Because work on the Berger Center has been deferred to 2027, 2026 ARF expenditures, which are typically $1.1 million annually, are lower than anticipated. $900,000 will be transferred to the Capital Improvement Fund.

There will be modest increases in some categories for 2027, several due to OVA assuming responsibility for Golf Course expenses (property insurance and taxes, and some grounds and waterway maintenance). Golf Social Membership will be reduced from $8.50 to $7.00 per member per month, with expectation that the contribution may continue to decline as responsibilities for assets are shifted.

As a result of recent board discussions, Kendrick said there is no expectation there will be any need for securing loans in the coming year. "There's really no serious contemplation of that (a loan) for next year. I think that the money we need to do the projects here in the central area are adequately funded from the money that we have put away for that purpose," he said.

BERGER CENTER PROJECT

The board voted unanimously to engage Pound Management, based in Napa, as an Owners Representative/Project Manager to guide the association through the Berger renovation process, including refining remaining details on the scope of the project. Four firms responded to the request for proposals, and the cost is projected to be between $100,000 and $200,000.

Director Jeff Neuman said the decision "puts (the owner's rep) between us and a general contractor, so that when we do finalize scope and we've gathered all of our bids, and we're ready to actually start doing work, we have somebody looking out for our interests."

OVA President Steve Spanier said a representative will help the board with many aspects of the Berger renovation, including helping the board determine the final scope of the project.

Among the duties for the firm, he listed monitoring and reporting progress, securing permits and approvals and working with OVA staff to ensure building closure plans are workable. They will also help with the selection of an architect and general contractor.

"All of the four candidates that we talked to have extensive experience with and knowledge of all of the architects and general contractors in this area. So, we

See **BOARD** on page 5

President's Message: Berger Center Project—What's Needed and What's Next

■Steve Spanier, OVA Board President

Recent Oakmont News articles by Jim Brewer and Marlena Tremont highlighted the history of and renovation work required on our busiest building—the Berger Center. In this President's Message, I'd like to highlight critical conclusions from these articles and offer a status update. Each of the following proposed renovations is within the project's scope, as determined by the board in our recent workshop.

THE BERGER CENTER REQUIRES SAFETY UPGRADES

The Berger Center is 62 years old. Some critical elements of its structure require safety updates.

Its windows are original plate glass. In an impact or earthquake, plate glass windows often break into large, knife-like shards. These need to be replaced with tempered glass that disintegrates into many relatively harmless, small pieces when they break.

The doors and frames do not meet appropriate fire ratings and do not include panic hardware to support safe access and emergency egress. They should be replaced with new doors and frames that are not only compliant with existing code requirements, but are also better suited for operation during films, concerts and other events to reduce light and noise disturbances.

Fire sprinklers should be installed to protect building occupants. Conforming with updated codes, specifically the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) requirements, should help ensure access and safety for all.

The board believes these safety improvements will benefit Oakmont residents for years to come.

THE BERGER CENTER REQUIRES COMFORT AND ACCESSIBILITY UPGRADES

The heating and cooling elements of the building are well beyond their expected life. These devices and their supporting systems need immediate replacement to ensure event attendees are comfortable in all seasons. During the hottest summer days, the Berger will continue to offer resident cooling that may not otherwise be attainable by our residents.

Berger lighting and sound systems are far from optimal. LED lights will not only improve visibility but also save energy. We plan to engage audio consultants to help us improve sound quality, which will result in a better experience during movies and concerts and enhanced speech clarity during presentations.

BUDGET IMPLICATIONS

All renovations mentioned here are already included in our reserve study. In other words, they are already built into budget plans for the next few years. Because the work will be done all at once rather than in piecemeal fashion, members will benefit from overall cost savings. This approach will also reduce building downtime, further benefiting residents.

See **PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE** on page 5

VJB CELLARS

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Members May Opt-In to Electronic Voting

■Oakmont Village Association

The Board of Directors election is coming up in April of 2027. Members (OVA homeowners) are automatically enrolled to vote by mail unless they have opted in to vote electronically. If you opted in to vote electronically in last year's election, you do not need to take any action to vote electronically this year. However, if you voted by paper ballot last year or are a new Oakmont homeowner and wish to vote electronically, you will need to opt in by completing the form posted at oakmontvillage.com/electronicvoting. The attached QR code will lead you to the online consent form.

The OVA office must receive the opt-in form by January 4, 2027 for it apply to the April 2027 election. Members need to opt in only once to be eligible to vote electronically in future elections. Forms received after this date will not apply to the upcoming election but will remain valid for future elections.

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

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

Participation in electronic voting is voluntary. If you voted by paper ballot last year and would prefer to continue voting by paper ballot, you do not need to do anything.

Please note: OVA members are Oakmont homeowners. Each household is entitled to one vote.

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

For questions, contact Amber Mariani at electronicvoting@oakmontvillage.com or call (707) 539-1611 ext. 108. You may also contact Amber if you voted electronically last year, and wish to go back to voting by paper ballot.

OVA Employee Appreciation Fund

■Oakmont Village Association

As the seasons change and the holidays draw near, many members ask, "How can we show our appreciation for the OVA staff?"

In response, the OVA Board created the Employee Appreciation Fund in 2016. This fund allows residents to recognize our dedicated non-management staff with a year-end holiday bonus as a special thank-you for their hard work throughout the year.

If you would like to contribute, please send your donation by December 11 to the OVA Office at 6637 Oakmont Drive, Suite A. Checks should be made payable to OVA, with "EMP APP Fund" written on the memo line. All contributions will be distributed to staff at year's end.

The OVA team is grateful to work with such a supportive community, and we thank you in advance for helping us make this holiday season brighter for our staff.

General Election Voting at East Recreation Center

■Oakmont Village Association

The East Recreation Center will be reserved for voting in the 2026 General Election on Friday, Oct. 30 through Tuesday, Nov. 3. The facility building will be closed for all other events.

Residents who wish to drop off their ballots for the General Election can do so at the East Recreation Center on the following days:

- Early Voting Days: Saturday, Oct. 31 through Monday, Nov. 2, 9 a.m. to 5 p.m.
- Election Day: Tuesday, Nov. 3, 7 a.m. to 8 p.m.

OAK at the VOM Golf Club

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

Let's fall into fall with some fun events at Valley of the Moon. From our member appreciation and renewal party to restaurant specials, here's a look at what's happening at the golf course this month.

SAVE THE DATE: MEMBER APPRECIATION AND RENEWAL PARTY—OCT. 30, 3–5 PM

Join us for a special gathering to celebrate our 2026 annual members! As a token of our appreciation, we're hosting a complimentary Member Appreciation Party at OAK. Enjoy an afternoon of delicious appetizers, drinks and good company as we thank you for being part of our club.

We'll also have 2027 membership information and forms available for those who wish to sign up early. Members who sign up by November 15 will receive a special gift.

Membership signup:
www.playvom.com/membership/annual-membership

HOLIDAY RATES

Holiday rates will be observed on the following days:

- Wednesday, November 11—Veterans Day
- Thursday, November 26—Thanksgiving
- Friday, November 27—Day after Thanksgiving

INSTRUCTION

Learn about our instructors by visiting the Instruction page on the Valley of the Moon website: www.playvom.com/golf/instruction.

New lesson rates: 30-minute lesson—$75; 45-minute lesson—$100; 60-minute lesson—$125.

WHAT'S HAPPENING IN OAK

Thursday Wine Specials: Try any of our new labels—an amazing pairing with our Thursday night chef specials—for only $8 per glass, regularly $12.

For Our Beer Lovers: Our Barrel Brothers label is back! Our newest flavor in rotation is their Hazy IPA, available on draft and in 16-ounce cans for the course. More to come from our favorite local brewery as additional flavors hit the production line. Come in, sip and enjoy!

November Prime Rib Night—Make Your RSVP Now: Join us Wednesday, November 18, for a prime rib special. The cost is $55 per person and includes cheesy scalloped potatoes, seasonal vegetables, and a glass of house wine or a soft drink. Please make reservations with Marisa and include your first and last name, phone number, and preferred reservation time. Seatings are available from 3–6 p.m.

Thanksgiving Buffet and To-Go Orders at OAK—Save the Date: Thursday, November 26. Buffet seating at noon; doors open at 11:30 a.m. Price: $65 per adult; $35 per child.

Thanksgiving menu: Spinach, pear and pomegranate salad with poppyseed dressing; Fresh green beans; Cranberry-orange compote; Traditional sage stuffing; Garlic mashed potatoes; Carved turkey breast; Carved prime rib with horseradish and house-made au jus; Rolls and butter; Pumpkin and apple pie; Water, coffee, decaf and hot tea beverage station.

Thanksgiving to-go orders must be placed by Saturday, November 21, at 5 p.m. Reservations are required for both dine-in and to-go orders. Call (707) 539-0415, ext. 6, to book, or email Marisa at mmangano@playvom.com.

Music Mondays:
October 26: Coffey Park Band
November 2: Relish Band
November 9: Canceled due to a private event
November 16: Fargo Brothers

Doors open at 4 p.m. Live music runs from 5–7 p.m. There is a $10 cash cover charge at the door.

Paint Nights: Our next paint nights are October 28 and November 13. No painting experience? No problem! A friendly instructor will guide you every step of the way while you enjoy the evening at Valley of the Moon Club.

Dinner and appetizers are available for purchase throughout the evening. Wine is also available by the glass or bottle. Doors open at 4:30 p.m. for check-in, giving you time to get comfortable and enjoy beverages and bites before painting begins.

Please note: All art supplies are included, and no painting experience is needed. Complimentary food and wine are not included with your ticket.

Register for either or both events at www.paintedcellarssoco.com/events.

CLOSING REMINDERS

Finally, we'd like to extend a friendly reminder to refrain from fishing in any of the golf course ponds due to safety concerns.

We'd also like to remind everyone to follow the golf course walking hours posted on our website. Walking is not permitted while golfers are present, as it poses a major safety hazard.

For walking hours and policies, visit www.playvom.com/the-club/walking-policies.

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Meet Your Neighbors (MYN)

■Katy Carrel

WHAT MYN REALLY IS?

Some people hear "MYN" and think emergency preparedness. We want you to think neighbors helping neighbors.

If something happened on your street tomorrow, who would know that you needed help and who would you check on? Oakmont residents already hear plenty about wildfires, evacuations, earthquakes and emergency planning. The challenge may not be a lack of information, but a misunderstanding of what Meet Your Neighbors (MYN) asks you to do. That misunderstanding can lead people to dismiss MYN before realizing how simple, practical, and valuable participation can be.

You're not interested. That's okay. MYN helps neighbors account for one another in an emergency.

You already have a go-bag. Excellent. That's personal preparedness. MYN is the neighborhood layer.

A go-bag won't tell anyone that a neighbor uses a walker, who knows how to shut off a broken water line, or whether everyone has evacuated safely. Your go-bag prepares you to leave. MYN helps your neighborhood prepare before anyone needs to leave. You can be personally prepared and still live in an unprepared neighborhood.

You already know what to do. Great! MYN isn't mainly about teaching individuals. It's about helping neighbors plan together.

You don't want to get involved. OK. You don't have to volunteer or join a committee. Participation can be as simple as being part of a neighborhood contact system. You don't even have to socialize—though you might enjoy it.

MYN planning happens before an emergency. It can help neighbors identify who may need assistance, how to communicate, and who can offer useful skills or resources. During an evacuation, leave promptly when instructed. You are not responsible for your neighbors, and MYN never asks you to delay your evacuation or act as a first responder.

Personal preparedness matters, but a prepared person can still live in an unprepared neighborhood. Together, individual and neighborhood preparedness make Oakmont more resilient.

Who has first-aid skills? Who may need help evacuating? Who has a pet home alone? These are some of the questions MYN helps neighbors answer in advance.

MYN emphasizes capability and community. Individual preparedness plus neighborhood preparedness equals a more resilient neighborhood.

To learn how to set up MYN in your neighborhood, contact Katy or Matt at MYN@Oakmontvillage.com.

Lawn Bowling

■Mary C Blake

INTERESTED IN LEARNING TO BOWL?

Email us at oakmontlawnbowling@gmail.com.

STATUS OF THE GREEN

As I type this, the Green is being over-seeded, soft spots and divots are being repaired, and new benches (to match the rest of Oakmont) are being installed. We'll also be getting new umbrellas. Help us decide on the color at our coming Member Meeting.

ANNUAL MEMBER MEETING NOVEMBER 9 AT NOON

Our Annual Member Meeting is coming soon.

WHEN: Monday, Nov. 9, noon **WHERE:** East Rec.

WHAT: The agenda will include a welcome, introduction to your current board, talk about each of the topics related to lawn bowling, including a presentation by our club president about the current state of the Green and our focus in 2027 on recruitment. Then we'll fill in slots for our coming 2027 board. We'll follow that with Q&A from the members and then lunch and a chance to relax and chat.

Music at Oakmont

■Judy Walker

AN AFTERNOON OF EXCEPTIONAL PIANO MUSIC

As we get closer to our opening concert on October 29, I'd like to focus on the artist and the program being performed.



Kotaro Fukuma is a Japanese pianist of international renown. Since winning the first prize at the Cleveland International Piano Competition in 2003, his professional journey has taken him to some of the most important venues throughout the world, including Wigmore Hall in London, Carnegie Hall in New York, The Gewandhaus in Leipzig, and Suntory Hall in Tokyo.

He has acquired a substantial and varied repertoire including forty piano concertos, which has opened opportunities to play with major symphonies such as the Cleveland Orchestra, and the Dresden and Moscow Philharmonic orchestras. Kotaro also performs an exhaustive list of solo piano music, especially paying attention to a number of lesser-known composers including those of his own Japanese heritage.

For his second Oakmont performance, the first half of Kotaro's program will focus on his other major talent—the composition and performance of piano transcriptions, allowing smaller audiences to experience familiar orchestral works in a different arrangement. We will be listening to the music of Bach, Mozart, Schubert and Smetana in an entirely new way.

In contrast, the second half will consist of sections of a pianistic masterwork—Liszt's "Years of Pilgrimage"—a set of three suites representing three years of travel and reflection, considered a summation of Liszt's musical style. Kotaro will perform excerpts from the second suite—the year in Italy, which ends with the famous "Dante Sonata"—a truly virtuosic composition.

Please join us for this exciting concert and be prepared to be amazed.

WHEN: Thursday, October 29 at 1:30 p.m.

WHERE: Berger Center, Oakmont

ADMISSION: $35 or with season pass *

2026/2027 full season and mini-season passes will be sold at this concert, priced at $140 and $70 respectively.

Please visit our website www.musicatoakmont.org for full details.

Table Tennis



■Jeanne Miller

TABLE TENNIS WORKSHOP FOR NOVICE PLAYERS! SUNDAY, OCTOBER 25

Coach Tim Wang Lee is a rated USA Table Tennis player who enjoys helping others improve their skills and confidence at the table.

Introduced to table tennis in elementary school in Taiwan, he developed strong fundamentals and a lasting love for the game. Over the years, he has stayed active in local table tennis clubs, supporting players of different levels as they refine their technique and understanding of the sport.

Today Tim is focused on promoting an active and social ping pong community in Sonoma County. He believes effective teaching helps players reach their goals while keeping the game fun, engaging, and rewarding.

If you're interested in improving your game, Coach Tim will be teaching a workshop on Sunday, October 25 at 10 a.m., right here in Oakmont at the West Rec. Cost is $20. Come join us for a fun-filled hour.

Email Jeanne today at jemilla1@gmail.com to reserve your spot.

Pickleball Corner

■Peter Copen

Most rec players don't suddenly "run out of legs." It happens in stages. Your split step gets a little later. You stop sitting into your dinks. You reach instead of moving. Returns land shorter. You start standing taller between shots. Then someone hits a ball you would have handled easily an hour ago and your feet just… don't get there.



Cartoon by Peter Copen.

That's the important part: leg fatigue usually shows up in your movement quality before it shows up as "I'm exhausted."

For intermediate players, especially 3.0–4.0 rec players in long open-play sessions, the goal shouldn't be to somehow feel fresh forever. It should be to delay the drop-off, recognize it early, and stop before fatigue starts changing how you move. That's a much smarter way to stay on the court longer.

Pickleball fatigue is not just "Tired Legs," a long session taxes several things at once: muscle endurance, glycogen and blood glucose, hydration, temperature regulation and balance and reaction quality.

Pickleball is stop-and-start, but that doesn't make it easy. You repeatedly accelerate, brake, shuffle, lunge, recover, and hold a semi-crouched ready position.

The Non-Obvious Fix: spend less leg energy early. Fresh legs at hour 2 are partly earned in hour 1. The goal is not to move less. It's to stop wasting movement that doesn't help the point.

Pickleball in Oakmont is free. However, there is a membership cost to be a member of the Pickleball Club of $30/yr. Benefits include friends, fun socials, parties, free 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: oakmontpickleballclub.com.

OAKMONT COMMUNITY CHURCH
Loving Community. Supportive Fellowship

■Greg Fauss

MEET, GREET AND EAT

Perhaps you are new to Oakmont, attended the recent newcomers' event and are beginning a new chapter in your life. If so, welcome!

But whether you're new or not, if you're looking for a place to explore Christian spirituality, a place to belong, a caring community, a place to grow in your faith, then come check us out!



Photo by G. Fauss.

This Sunday would be a particularly good day to visit as we'll be having a potluck (no need to bring anything) after the morning service. It's a great way to meet people and get a feel for our church. We are interdenominational, and endeavor to be welcoming and safe for all.

For information about our Sunday meetings, our Wednesday Morning Bible Study, our Thursday Alpha dinner discussions, Saturday Prayer meetings, and other gatherings go to www.occsantarosa.org, write us at occsantarosa@gmail.com or call us at (707) 595-0166.

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE Continued from page 1

CONTRACTOR SEARCH UPDATE

By the September 28 due date, four proposals from prospective Owner's Representatives (companies that will protect OVA's interests in and coordinate all aspects of the project) had been received. More recently, we received a fifth response. Each of the companies has extensive industry experience in exactly this capacity.

By the time this article appears, interviews with each will be complete. Our current plan is that the board will have selected one of these organizations at our October 20th board meeting.

After we've contracted with an Owner's Representative, that company will help guide us through the entire planning and construction process. The process will include:

- final scope determination;
- architect and general contractor selection;
- design team and stakeholder coordination;
- budget and schedule development;
- building closure estimates and planning;
- permitting and approvals;
- risk management;
- project progress monitoring and reporting;
- project documentation and record keeping and
- project close-out.

OVA staff leadership will be the primary operational interface with the Owner's Representative, with the board involved at critical decision-making points.

The board is confident that, when all is said and done, the community will be very pleased with the results of this important project. As always, we'll keep you posted throughout.

BOARD Continued from page 1

do believe that their help will be invaluable, and that they will actually save us money," Spanier said.

In addition to Berger renovations, General Manager Christel Antone said the options for needed renovations/replacement of the central pool deck and cabana area will be presented to the board in the next month. Preliminary evaluations involve different materials and could range in cost from $300,000 to $400,000.

BYLAWS COURT RELIEF

Based on a legal counsel recommendation, the board voted 4 to 1, with Director Rob Williams opposing, to pursue judicial relief of last May's election results on two proposed bylaws amendments that failed to meet approval thresholds required by the OVA's governing documents. The board will petition the Sonoma County Superior Court, citing high approval thresholds that make "changes difficult event when there is substantial membership support." Directors approved up to $20,000 expenditure, including attorney fees.

GOGO GRANDPARENTS

General Manager Christel Antone said OVA continues to work with the City of Santa Rosa on replacements for Bus 16, including collaborations with Oakmont Gardens and Spring Lake Village for sharing opportunities. Yuri Kolsen, a city transportation planner, addressed the board and said the city has issued surveys to understand the use of Bus 16, which has experienced a decrease in ridership, as well as explore ways to ensure access to transportation for those who need it.

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.

Bocce Club



■Deb Ponts

FALLING LEAVES TOURNAMENT

For club members our fall/winter start time beginning November 1 is 1 p.m.

Plan to join us for the Falling Leaves tournament on November 7 at 12:45 p.m. to form teams and participate in our monthly 50/50 raffle. This is a member-only event.

For Bocce club members the courts are reserved Tuesday, Thursday, Friday and Saturdays at 9:30 a.m. until November 1. Oakmont residents can reserve one court during times not reserved for club members by contacting Bob Swift, (707) 648-5409.

Club members mark your calendar for December 5 when we'll celebrate the holidays at the Rivera restaurant in Santa Rosa. If you have any questions about this event, contact Judy Aiken or Pat Paulson.

Interested in becoming a member? Bocce is a low impact, interactive game which is a great way to meet your neighbors, and make new friends.

New member lessons are available the first Tuesday of each month with your membership you'll receive access to the Bocce equipment. Annual dues are $25 and if you join now your dues will carry over to the 2027 calendar year. Applications are available at the OVA office. We'd prefer cash, however a check made payable to our Treasurer, Tony Sarram, is accepted.

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 ten-week Tournament that includes the play-offs.

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

No bowling dates in October.

Bowling dates for November: Nov. 10 (week #10), 17 (week #11: Thanksgiving Challenge). No bowling Nov. 3 (Election) and Nov. 24 (fourth Tuesday).

Bowling dates December: Dec. 1 (week #12), 8 (Playoffs, top 4 teams), 10 (Christmas Party at East Rec). Dec. 15, 22, 29 break for Christmas Holiday.

RESULTS AS OF OCT. 13 (WEEK #8 FALL LEAGUE)

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

Men's High Games: Scott Harris, 246; Bradley Kravitz, 233; Bob Chapman, 225; Joe Bernal, 220; Don Shelhart, 218; Charlie Ensley, 206; Richard Adamczyk, 201.

Women's High Games: Peggy Ensley, 277; Sandy Osheroff, 266; Laurel Earles, 247; Robin Schudel, 241; Vallerie Hulsey, 236; Joanne Abrams, 225; Vickie Jackanich, 222; Joanne Bender, 219.

If you're thinking of joining us, we started our Fall 2026 League on Aug. 11 and will end on Dec. 8 with Christmas Party Dec 10 at East Rec. Most of us have all bowled on a bowling league some time in our lives and here's your chance to do it again without the weight of a heavy bowling ball. Come see us in action and join in on all the fun.

LEGACY AWARD Continued from page 1

Dozens of Grandparents Club members were in attendance to honor Brockman at the Oct. 20 board meeting. Nancy Holman, one of the club's steadfast volunteers, says the week is always full of smiles and laughter, and the meticulous organization is evident to all who attend. "But what you might not see is the person behind the magic. Leslie's good heart, her genuine kindness, and her deep love of children are exactly what make all of this possible," she said.



Leslie (second to left) with members of Grandparents Club, Community Church and friends. (Photo by Julie Kiil)

The Grandparents Club started two decades ago under Carol Cotton with 30 members. Brockman took on its leadership in 2016, and the club membership has grown to 200, with more than 180 children participating in some 70 class and activity offerings.

In presenting the Legacy Award, OVA Board President Steve Spanier said Brockman executes the week with kindness and extraordinary organizational skills. "It's fitting that our first legacy award goes to a person who will leave a lasting legacy here in Oakmont. Leslie Brockman has been the key component of Grandparent's Week—and our Grandparent's Club—for years. The word most often used to describe her contribution is 'remarkable'," he said.

Since relocating to Oakmont from Southern California, Brockman has also been involved in several Oakmont committees and organizations, including Long Range Planning, the Technical Learning Center, Lifelong Learning and the Oakmont Community Church.

Brockman, who had a 35-year career as a music teacher and produced full-length musicals, said Grandparents Week is labor of love that puts her skills to good use. It's a year-round commitment, sometimes requiring her to work more than 10 hours a day organizing classes, scheduling rooms and planning festivities, including the welcome Carnival and Family Picnic. She has a large core of volunteers, many of whom help throughout the year. Other clubs, like tennis and pickleball, and individuals teach and lead classes. She does the mind-boggling job of registration herself, managing the daunting task of getting kids into their choice activities and keeping everyone happy.

"I don't know what rest is," said Brockman, who is 81. "But I'm not big on rest. I thrive on doing. I try to make it to all the classes by organizing my day, and this year I think I made it to everyone. I'm so grateful for all the volunteers that help to make this happen."

The Legacy Award is reserved for exceptional service that has helped shape, strengthen or enrich Oakmont. It will not necessarily be presented annually and can also be awarded posthumously. Both former or current Oakmonters are eligible. The primary consideration is the significance and lasting impact of the recipient's contributions.

Jazz Club Live Music and Workshop

■Michael James

WELCOME HOOD MOUNTAIN MAMAS!

Join us for a performance by a very special vocal trio, comprised of Oakmont residents, at the East Recreation Center on Wednesday, November 4 for the first hour of our meeting from 2–3 p.m. The Hood Mountain Mamas were born when Donna Forst, Florentia Scott and Karen Mackey heard each other improvise harmonies at the weekly jams of Oakmont's ukulele club, the Oakmont Ukesters. They have since performed at several Oakmont events, as well as other community functions. They have played at several senior residences and have a standing gig at Spring Lake Village.

Donna played piano as a child, minored in music in college and found her love for the ukulele while living in Hawaii with her husband, Don. Since joining the Ukesters in 2014, she has been a regular arranger and rehearsal leader. Donna is also a soloist in her church choir.

Florentia played clarinet in high school, minored in music at UCLA, studied classical guitar, and has played and sung throughout her lifetime in bands, singing groups, and choirs, including the Santa Rosa Symphonic Chorus. She continues to lead a Zoom ukulele strum-along she launched during the pandemic.

The daughter of a professional musician, Karen played violin in a symphony orchestra from grade school through college. She then switched to guitar and ultimately ukulele. As part of a high school singing trio, she performed on Steel Pier in Atlantic City and got as far as the Ted Mack Amateur Hour. Although tempting, they all chose college versus a singing career.

Please join us for the second hour open jam workshop from 3–4 p.m. with any instrument, including guitar, ukulele, violin, wind instruments, piano, percussion or vocals. Music will be provided, but please bring your own instrument and music stand. A $5 donation will be gratefully accepted.

At the West Recreation Center, we are also starting a new beginner music class for the holidays. Learn to read, sing and play all of your favorite Christmas songs on any instrument. Join us on the second and fourth Fridays of November and December. A $5 donation will be gratefully accepted. Contact me at mjamesblue71147@gmail.com.



Conservatives Club

■Dennis Gacutan

LOOKING TO THE UPCOMING ELECTIONS

With the November elections fast approaching, there has never been a more important time to become informed, involved, and engaged in the decisions that will shape our community, our state, and our nation.

This month's club meeting on Tuesday, October 27, 4–6 p.m. at the Berger Center offers an opportunity to discuss the issues facing voters, examine candidates and ballot propositions, and better understand what is at stake.

An informed electorate is the foundation of a strong democracy, and your participation matters. We encourage everyone to attend, ask questions, exchange ideas, and prepare to make their voices heard at the ballot box.

Our club brings together neighbors with shared interests and a desire to learn from one another. As the election approaches, understanding the propositions before us and their potential effects on our freedoms is especially important.

We have been privileged to host speakers on a wide variety of topics covering everything from health and safety to the latest political issues. Monthly meetings may feature a guest speaker or a video presentation, followed by questions and discussion, including conversations in small groups.

Our club meets on the fourth Tuesday of each month, 4 to 6 p.m. at the Berger Center. Food and beverages, including alcohol, are welcome. There will also be time to socialize, make new acquaintances, and get to know your neighbors.

For more informal conversation, we also gather Wednesdays, 10–11 a.m. at CAC. These gatherings offer an open forum for members to introduce topics and exchange ideas without a formal agenda. Oakmont residents bring a wealth of backgrounds and life experience, making our discussions interesting and informative.

Whether you've attended our events before or are new to Oakmont, I hope you'll plan to be with us. Questions may be directed to thenewoakmontcc@gmail.com.

Water Fitness

■Valerie Hulsey

EXERCISING IN THE POOL IS FUN

Jack and Jill? Fred and Freida? Frog Legs? What are these terms and how will they help you get in shape? You can find the answers with water aerobics at our Water Fitness classes.

Mary is teaching Water Fitness on Mondays and Wednesdays at 9:30 a.m. at the West Rec pool.

Julie's water exercise class starts at 10 a.m. every Tuesday. Class will be closed on Oct. 20 and 27, and will resume on Nov. 3.

Pauline teaches Water Fitness every Thursday from 9–10 a.m. However, she is currently on vacation and will return to teach on Nov. 5.

There is a drop-in fee of $10 for any Water Fitness class, all held at the West Rec pool. All fitness levels are welcome!

The benefits of Water Aerobics are:

- Reduces Joint pain
- Increases flexibility and balance
- Improves cardio fitness
- Builds strength
- Decreases bone and muscle loss

Even though the weather is getting cooler the water is toasty warm. There is equipment at the pool to use for the classes. Looking forward to seeing you there.

Oakmont Rainbow Women

■Kathie Sherman

ZOË LEWIS WILL PERFORM LIVE AT THE BERGER



Zoe Lewis.

Zoë Lewis Concert, brought to you by Oakmont Rainbow Women will be on Thursday, November 12 at 6:30 p.m. at the Berger

Join us at the Berger to see Zoë Lewis perform live! Zoë is a very talented songwriter, musician and comedian. She has performed all over the world and we are thrilled she will be back in Oakmont! Seating is limited so purchase your $30 tickets soon.



Affectionately known as "a band in a body" Zoë plays vintage jazz and world beat grooves on anything from the piano to spoons. Originally from the UK, she has lived in Provincetown for the last 28 years.

To purchase tickets using PayPal, go to oakmontrainbowwomen.com/orw/zoe-lewis. On the Check Out page in the Notes section, please list the name(s) for each attendee.

To pay by check or cash, bring your check/cash to the OVA office and leave it in an envelope with the names of all guests in the ORW folder.

Don't miss the fun—only $30 for Oakmont Residents and their guests.

EcoGarden Tip #1

■Marie Kay Hansen, Oakmont Environmental Stewardship Task Force



Marie Kay gives a Penstemon a happy new home. (Photo by Gaye Denley)

Fall is planting time in our Mediterranean climate here in Oakmont. Our area has a dry season of more than half a year, so planting now (October, November) gives native plants cool and wet months to grow. If you choose drought tolerant plants, especially species growing naturally nearby, they know what to do! They send their roots deep where there is ground water.

Steps for planting:

1) Soak the plant in its pot for 10 minutes.

2) Make the hole in the ground a little wider, and no deeper than the plant plus its soil and roots.

3) Fill the hole with water and let it sink in.

4) Remove plant from its pot. If roots are many and tangled, tease and loosen some to free them to explore the ground below.

5) Place plant in hole and fill in with soil.

6) Water very deeply the first few days.

7) Then water deeply once per week (unless there is a good rain) for the first year. Add a 2–3-inch layer of arbor mulch around the plant (not touching the stem).

Refer to the California Native Plant Society's website for plant ideas and more info: calscape.org.

Passages

Ellen Butterman (January 7, 1931–September 5, 2026) passed away at her home in Oakmont, surrounded by her family. She participated in many programs at Oakmont: Current Events, Osher Lifelong Learning, Line Dancing, mahjong, and was a long-time volunteer at the Schulz Museum.

She was predeceased by her husband, Edward Butterman. A celebration of Ellen's life will be held later this fall. Contact cindy@cindymorton.net for details.

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

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Oakmont Movers and Groovers

■Denise Lindsey

COME TOGETHER FOR A NIGHT WITH HEY JUDE!

Get ready for a night of great music, dancing and sing-along favorites when Hey Jude takes the stage at the Berger Center on Saturday, November 14, from 6–9 p.m.

Hailing from Vacaville and the San Francisco Bay Area, Hey Jude brings the unforgettable sounds of the 1960s and '70s to life, with a special emphasis on the music of The Beatles. From timeless classics to energetic dance hits, this talented band knows how to get an audience on its feet and singing along.

Formed in 2011, Hey Jude combines years of musical experience with a passion for recreating the songs that defined a generation. Whether you're ready to hit the dance floor or simply enjoy an evening of nostalgic favorites with friends, this is a night you won't want to miss.

Doors open at 5:30 p.m., and the music starts at 6 p.m. Come hungry! The HopMonk food truck will be on-site, and guests are also welcome to bring their own beverages and snacks.

Tickets are $20 in advance or $25 at the door. The event takes place at the Berger, 6633 Oakmont Drive.

Grab your friends, put on your dancing shoes and come together for a fun-filled evening celebrating the music we all know and love!



WHEN: Saturday, November 14, 6–9 p.m. (doors open at 5:30 p.m. and music starts at 6:30)
LOCATION: Oakmont Village Central, Berger Center
FOOD TRUCK: HopMonk. Feel free to bring your drinks and snacks to enhance your experience.
TICKET PRICE: $20. At the door, if available—$25

VOM Rotary

■Valerie Hulsey

HAPPY HOUR WITH ROTARY

Our new Happy Hour Rotary Club on the second and third Mondays of each month is really becoming a fun afternoon. We are enjoying fellowship at 3:30 p.m. with a meeting following from 4–5 p.m.

On November 9 we are looking forward to hearing from Julie Ann Steinberger from the Forget Me Not Farm and on November 16 Christina Gonzalez will tell us about Today and Together.

Please join us for an afternoon of friendship and interesting speakers.

Movies At Oakmont

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









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

OCTOBER 25: *THE ODYSSEY*

Matt Damon: After the Trojan War, Odysseus faces a dangerous voyage back to Ithaca, meeting creatures like the Cyclops Polyphemus, Sirens, and Calypso along the way. 2026, R, 2:52.

NOVEMBER 1: *HIGHEST 2 LOWEST*

Denzel Washington: When a titan music mogul is targeted with a ransom plot, he is jammed up in a life-or-death moral dilemma. 2025, R, 2:13.

NOVEMBER 8: *IT WAS JUST AN ACCIDENT*

Foreign with Subtitles: An unassuming mechanic is reminded of his time in an Iranian prison when he encounters a man he suspects to be his sadistic jailhouse captor. Panicked, he rounds up a few of his fellow ex-prisoners to confirm the man's identity. 2025, PG-13, 1:43.

NOVEMBER 15: *THE RIVALS OF AMZIAH KING*

Matthew McConaughey: Amziah King, beekeeper, musician, and anchor of his community, reunites with former foster daughter Kateri after many years apart, and fends off threats to his honey business. 2025, R, 2:10.





SIR Branch #92

■Liz O'Connell

CANINE COMPANIONS AND SERVICE DOGS LUNCHEON AND SPEAKER

WHEN: Tues., November 10, 11:30 a.m.
WHERE: Berger Center
COST: Catered luncheon, $35
SPEAKER: Floranne Fanti



Floranne Fanti.

All men and women are welcome.

For over 50 years, Canine Companions has been providing expertly trained service dogs, with ongoing support, to children, adults, and veterans with disabilities, at no cost to recipients. For 18 years, Floranne Fanti has volunteered as puppy raiser, Board President, and as a Northwest Region board member.

Currently, Floranne is raising puppy #9, Daryl, a handsome black labrador retriever who is proficient on 30 commands. On November 6, Floranne will say goodbye to Daryl and turn over his leash to a Professional Training instructor on the Schulz Campus in Santa Rosa for 6-9 months learning 10-15 additional commands or "cues." He will learn to pick up items, like a dropped cell phone, turn on light switches, pull open doors, open and close drawers, to name a few. The hope is that he will graduate and be matched with a person who has been waiting 1-3 years for their service dog.

Floranne says the most difficult command to teach is to "speak." When perhaps a dog owner has fallen and needs additional help, the service dog must be able to communicate the need to others by barking. Floranne will go over some of these fascinating details in her presentation.



Daryl.

SIR 92's next event is a Christmas Party at the Wild Oak Saddle Club on December 10.

Contact Sherry Magers at smagers9@gmail.com for luncheon menu and reservations.

Oakmont Art Association

■Linda O'Connor

TREASURES OF THE PHARAOHS



"Treasures of the Pharaohs" program is offered in conjunction with the current deYoung Museum exhibit. The exhibit features 130 exquisite works that exemplify the grandeur of the world of the Egyptian pharaohs. The objects range from monumental granite statues to intricate gold jewelry, each highlighting the wealth and complexity of ancient Egyptian civilization.

Spanning 3000 years of history, the exhibition begins with the pharaoh at the apex of Egypt's social hierarchy and broadens to include his family, high officials, beliefs, gods, and views of death and the afterlife. Additional objects beautifully and poignantly represent the daily life and the views of those who served the pharaohs, offering insight into Egyptian society, its beliefs, and its artistic achievements.



Objects found in tombs, such as jewelry, cosmetics, tools, and furnishings present an idealized portrait of daily life. These lovely works demonstrate how beauty and refinement shaped life beyond the pharaoh's circle, and that even the humblest objects could be elegantly designed, functional, and beautiful.

WHEN: November 13, refreshments 10 a.m., program at 10:30 a.m.
WHERE: Berger Center

Watch for future announcements of an OAA bus trip on January 12, 2027 to the deYoung to view this extraordinary exhibit. Ticket sales begin November 16.

Also of interest are upcoming programs and events:

November 21–22: Open Studios in Oakmont

January 8, 2027: OAA presentation—Charlie Goldberg, French Photography

February 12, 2027: OAA presentation —Docent (on zoom from Asian Art Museum), Art Across Asia

April 2–3, 2027: Oakmont Art Show, Berger Center

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Canine Club

■Steve Huntley

ONLY ONE WEEK LEFT

Saturday, October 31 is Halloween! A perfect day to dress your puppy up in a scary costume. More importantly, October 31 is the last day of the special 1-hour Small Dog Play Time at the Happy Tails Dog Park from 9–10 a.m. each day. From November 1 through April 30 the Small Dog Play Time is 3–4 p.m. each day. The dog park defines small dogs as 25 lbs. or less.



Enzo.

Speaking of the Happy Tails Dog Park, a reminder that its upkeep and cleanliness depend on the volunteers who visit the dog park each day to inspect for waste and damage and pickup and dispose of waste aka doggie poop. We are now down to only 5 volunteers to cover each 7-day week. We desperately need a few more volunteers to help keep our dog park safe and clean. Please email Peri Olinger at periolinger@yahoo.com if you would like to be a dog park volunteer.

One more dog park tidbit. The next special play date at the dog park is the Doxie/Maltese Play Date on Saturday, October 31, 10 a.m.–noon. And, the next big event for our Canine Club members is our first annual Holiday Picnic Party to be held Saturday, December 5, 12–2 p.m. at the West Rec. This event is for Canine Club members only.



Gracie and Ollie.

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.

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.

Please note that on Friday, October 30 Current Events will meet at the Berger Center because the East Rec. will be used for the election. Zoom will not be available. Also note that there will be a special Current Event function on Friday, November 13, therefore, there will not be a regular meeting.

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Hikers

■Colleen Keegan

We welcome you to join us on a hike whether you are a member yet or not. Members, please RSVP in advance at www.oakmonthikingclub.org for each hike.

Bring water, lunch, hat, layers, sunscreen, and poles if you use them. Check website to join, get hike details, see photos, register for a hike and more. The annual membership is only $15. See website for the latest updates as hikes are subject to change.

OCTOBER 29: LONG HIKE LOS ALAMOS TO PYTHIAN

We'll hike from the Los Alamos trailhead all the way to the Hood Mountain summit with an optional trip to Gunsight Rock finishing at the Pythian Road parking lot. 8 miles, 2200 feet elevation gain. Leave Berger at 8:30 a.m. Hike leader is John Ferreira, (650) 766-0497.

NOVEMBER 5: LONG HIKE LAKE SONOMA SOUTH LAKE HIKE

Ten miles and 1500 feet elevation from Skaggs Springs Vista to the Old Skaggs Road trailhead. We pass Black Mountain and the Old Saw Mill rolling along the lake to get the elevation. Leave Berger at 8:30 a.m. Leader is John Ferreira, (650)766-0497.

NOVEMBER 5: INTERMEDIATE PLUS HIKE ANNADEL HENRY'S KNOB

We'll hike to Henry's Knob, for lunch with a spectacular near 360° view. Weather permitting, we can see Mt. Tam, Mt. Taylor, Mt. St. Helena, and Mt. Hood. 8.3 miles, 1263 feet elevation gain. Poles recommended. Leave Berger 9 a.m. Leader is Florentia Scott, (707) 591-1929.

NOVEMBER 5: SHORT HIKE WEST COUNTY TRAIL



West County Trail. (Photo by Jody Galli)

We'll go about 2 miles and return the same way for a total of 4 miles. The trail is mostly paved asphalt, with some boardwalks. Optional lunch at Sonoma Pizza Company. Free parking and a porta potty at trailhead. Leave Berger at 9 a.m. Leader is Karen Cotter, (408) 998-8151.

NOVEMBER 12: LONG HIKE MT. ST HELENA

The first mile is shaded along the Robert Lewis Stevenson trail. Then we follow the exposed service road to the summit and back. Poles may be helpful for the rocky scramble just before the service road. About 9.8 miles and 2116 feet of elevation. Leave Berger at 8:00 a.m. Leader is John Schwonke, (707) 292-7539.

NOVEMBER 12: INTERMEDIATE HIKE ANNADEL—LAKE ILSANJO



Oakmont Hiking Club at Annadel Lake Ilsanjo.

Join us for this lovely hike to Lake Ilsanjo via the Canyon Trail. We will loop around the lake, stop for a snack before heading back on the Spring Creek Trail. About 5 miles and 500 feet elevation. Meet at the Berger Center at 9 a.m. Rain cancels. Leader is Leslie Gossage, (707) 321-7841.

Oakmont Garden Club

■Patty McHugh

SUPPORTING HEALTHY BAT, OWL AND NATIVE WILDLIFE POPULATION

WHEN: Wednesday, November 11, 9:30–10 a.m. Social, 10:15–11 a.m. Presentation

WHERE: East Rec., 7902 Oakmont Drive

SPEAKER: Austin Robinson, Expert/Co-Founder, Happy Bat Solutions

Happy Bat Solutions is a Sonoma County wildlife company specializing in humane bat removal, bat exclusion, bat house installation and maintenance, as well as owl box installation and maintenance, wildlife exclusion, and handcrafted cedar bat and owl houses. They are passionate about wildlife, habitat conservation, and environmental solutions.

We can all agree that owls are magnificent creatures and are essential in keeping the rodent population in check. You can spot owl boxes throughout the county next to open areas, though you are not likely to encounter an owl. Owls are elusive, cautious and nocturnal.

Bats are less understood and have often been given a bum rap—thanks to Dracula and to Halloween. Bats, too, are fascinating animals. Bats, like owls, are creatures of the night but not at all scary—they are not aggressive and are actually very clean, gentle and intelligent. Bats are migratory (Canada to Mexico) and the only mammal that flies.

There are over 1,000 species; check out NorthBay species on the website, happybatsolutions.com. Their offspring are called "pups" and are nursed by the mother. They are exceptionally beneficial to the ecosystem. They control the flying insect population and are amazing pollinators; it's been reported that some bat species can eat 500+ insects per hour and consume 100% of their body weight. They do all this despite the fact that they sleep ¾ of their life!

This meeting is our last club meeting of 2026, and we will be electing the board for 2027. Please consider becoming a part of the board. New officers breathe new life into our programming and structure and are so very welcome!

Playreaders

■D. Hall

RADIO SHOW MAKES WAY FOR ORIGINAL READINGS

October's playbill from Oakmont Playreaders featured a radio show, *The Shadow Knows*, and *Two Across*, by Jerry Mayer. The latter was presented by Sandy White, Mark Parsons, and Ginny Smith.

On November 2, Sarah Shankman returns to an eager audience with a reading of her original *Some You Win*, followed by D. Hall reading *Betwixt in Berlin*. Star Power follows on November 9 with *Blind Date*, by Horton Foote. It features Power, Wes Doerr, Marcel Coder, and D. Hall.

Join us for Playreaders presentations the first two Mondays of every month at 2 p.m. in Room B (Birch) of the Central Activities Center.



The Shadow—Heartbeat of Death *readers were: Top row—Jim Preston, Bruce Andich, Dennis Hall, Marcel Coder, Steven Levin and Peter Krohn; bottom row—Jonathan Hayden, Jeri Leasher, Star Power and Sarah Shankman. (Photo by John Dolan)*

Oakmont Pétanque Club

■Don McPherson

OKTOBERFEST 2026

The October 3 Oktoberfest celebration began on a blistering hot, sunny day with the eighth annual Oktoberfest tournament, the last of the 2026 season. Tournament Director and Club Assistant Chair Don McPherson, aided by Linda McPherson, handled registration and randomization of teams with the club's iconic "Fanny" looking on. Fanny, "the Goddess of Pétanque," is the focal point of a traditional ritual that follows any 0-13 shutout loss. Fortunately, there were no Oktoberfest shutouts.

Fourteen club members were present and 12 competed in six doubles teams. The level of competition was high. One match generally advanced by single points while in the two others, one team went out to a 10-0 lead before the other worked its way back into contention. One of the 10-0 matches featured a thrilling comeback with the trailing team ultimately winning 13-11.

In the play-in round, Barbara Lowell and Rick Schulze defeated Ellen Henderson and Sherry Labate; Ellean Huff and Rachel Meserve defeated Barbara Newton and Ro Nicholson; and Warren Watkins and Bill Whetstone defeated Fred Martin and Susan Mitchell. A short playoff determined second place between the winners of the two 13-11 matches.

In the championship round, shortened because of the mid-90s degree heat, Watkins-Whetstone defeated Lowell-Schulze to win first place. Huff-Meserve defeated Newton-Linda McPherson (substituting for Ro Nicholson) to take third place; and Martin-Mitchell defeated Henderson-Labate to take fifth place.



Oktoberfest 2026 Winners (L to R): Bill Whetstone and Warren Watkins (1st place); Barbara Lowell and Rick Schultze (2nd place).

The traditional potluck picnic lunch at the courts followed the announcement of winners and photos.

PÉTANQUE IN OAKMONT MONDAY, WEDNESDAY, SATURDAY

The club encourages all Oakmonters who may be interested in playing or learning to play pétanque (pay-tonk), also known as Boules, to come to the courts between Berger and the OVA offices at 9:45 a.m. on the Club play days of Monday, Wednesday, and Saturday. The club has boules to lend while you're learning, and you'll be playing right away. Club play days are casual friendly games with teams randomly designated.

Strength and Balance Class

■Valerie Hulsey

Mary's Strength and Balance Classes are in full swing and everyone is welcome to join the class. We meet at 9:30 at the East Rec center. There is a $10 drop-in fee and don't forget to bring water and your TheraBand for strengthening. If you don't have one you can purchase one for $5 when you arrive.

Not only do we work on our balance skills we have lots of fun doing so. The laughter in the room is always contagious so please join in the fun.

Living Room Conversations

■Jane Kennedy

DISCOVER AND CONNECT THROUGH CONVERSATION A POTENTIAL NEW CLUB IN OAKMONT!

Research consistently shows that meaningful friendships and social connections play an important role in healthy aging. That's exactly what this potential new Oakmont Club hopes to offer: a welcoming, safe space where residents can share personal experiences and perspectives, listen to others, and engage in thoughtful, respectful conversations.

Our gatherings will focus on our shared humanity rather than political talking points or arguments. In small groups, participants will spend approximately 60-90 minutes sharing ideas and experiences using structured, friendly conversation guides from "Living Room Conversations" and beyond.

LOOKING AHEAD: FUTURE MEETINGS

Beginning in January, we hope to meet on the second Wednesday of each month, from 2–4 p.m., at an Oakmont location TBA.

FUTURE TOPICS

Some sample nonpartisan topics include:

More Curious, Less Furious: Learn to approach differences with curiosity and an open heart.

American Values: Explore what our shared ideals mean in today's world.

Listening Creatively: Practice the art of truly hearing and understanding others.

AI and Data Centers: Share, listen and discuss views on these current topics.

Politics and Personal Relationships: Discover ways to maintain care and respect despite differing viewpoints.



Oakmont Issues: Discuss community concerns to build understanding and strengthen connections.

Building the Future We Want: Envision a positive path forward for our community, society, and the world.

And many more!

COME EXPLORE THE POSSIBILITIES!

We invite you to attend one of our introductory sessions to learn more about the concept, experience a sample conversation, and help us bring this new club to life in Oakmont.

Introductory Sessions—walk-in events, content repeats: November 9 and 16, 2–4 p.m., OVA Suite B.

Starting in January, we welcome you to join our monthly gatherings. Please sign up by emailing OakmontLRC@gmail.com. Additional details will be sent to those who express interest.

We are excited about the possibility of creating a place where we can listen, learn, connect, and build a brighter future together. We hope you'll join us!

If you are a skilled facilitator wanting to join us, please let us know at OakmontLRC@gmail.com.

Tennis Club

■Nani Tosoc

MEN'S DOUBLES TOURNAMENT

The OTC Men's Doubles tournament was held on Saturday, October 10 on the West Rec tennis courts. Play commenced at 9 a.m. with a match time temperature of 55.2 degrees. The tournament preparation crew of Tony Agocs, Rex Fuller (VP), Michael Scrobonia (Facilities Coordinator), and Maureen Pennall (Social Director), worked diligently to prep the food and refreshments, organize the draw and remove the fall leaves and nuts littering the court at 8:30 a.m.

Eighteen other nuts, I mean fine gentlemen, battled for the crown in four hotly contested rounds of play. Vi, India and Jacki rooted for their favorites, but unfortunately George, Peter and Michael were out of the running. Only Judy came away smiling.

The results: 1st Place—Ken Hirshon (back in fine form); 2nd Place—Fritz Spotleson (battling a tough foot injury); 3rd Place—the team of Frank Passagilia (our esteemed OTC President) and "Fast Eddie" Edilberto Loaiza.

In other OTC news, the monthly birthday celebration was held at Su Casa Thursday, September 24. September birthday boy was Reed Davis, a fine player and gentleman. Reed shared a neat picture of his father, a lumberman, atop a very tall tree which gave some of the attendees vertigo. The highlight of the luncheon was watching Armando contribute his share of the bill all in loose change, much to the chagrin of our organizer, Pete Hogan, but drawing laughter from everyone else.

This month's luncheon is set for October 15 at Mary's Pizza to honor another orbit of the sun by noted scholar, educator and comedian, Mr. Jack Horwitz. By print time, this will have already occurred, and we will post the one-liners resulting from that dubious affair.

The Pizza Party celebration for the joint winners of the Army-Navy tournament was held on Tuesday, Sep. 29 at the Central Complex patio. Lots of pizza, but only nine attendees, so leftovers were a special gift to those in attendance.

Apologies to the Army team, whose picture was unintentionally left out of a previous article. (Boy, this reporter, a proud Navy supporter, got an earful. Oops.)

See you on the courts!



Army team. (Photo by Maureen Pennal)

Oakmont Democratic Club

■Ida Rae Egli

OUR COUNTRY NEEDS US TO VOTE

"Elections belong to the people. It's their decision. If they decide to turn their back on the fire and burn their behinds, then they will just have to sit on their blisters."—Abraham Lincoln



Abraham Lincoln was right. We turn our backs on voting at risk of peril. As citizens of the United State, a democracy, what is asked of us, beyond all else, is simply that we vote, that we raise our voices for decency and fairness, for our children and grandchildren, that they might inherit a government that offers them a chance in life: for health, education, and a real pursuit of happiness.

Tuesday, November 3 we vote together at the East Rec. Center, each of us calling on the wisdom of our decades of experience, and our love for this incredible country, state, and county that has given us so much. Oakmont's Democratic Club and Democratic Alliance—oakmontdemocraticalliance.org—are offering a helping hand to all residents of Oakmont, regardless of political affiliation, wanting to get their ballot in by election day. By going to our website (above) or calling (707) 292-8405 or (707) 291-3655, voters can learn about the issues requiring our votes on this midterm ballot and how and where to get our ballots in to ensure they are counted. All questions are welcome.

The safest way to make sure your vote is counted is to drop it in an Official Ballot Drop Box. Open 24 hours a day beginning on October 6 at the Santa Rosa Veterans Memorial Building (1351 Maple Ave., SR).

Beginning October 31 the Official Drop Boxes nearest to us at Oakmont are these: 1) Oakmont East Rec. Center; 2) Kenwood Depot (314 Warm Springs Road); 3) Rincon Valley Library (6959 Montecito Ave, SR).

So, vote early and get your ballots into an official vote depository box. For further details, check the Voter Instructions sheet in your Sonoma County ballot envelope or call the Sonoma County Registrar of Voting: (707) 565-6800.

As my 84-year-old grandmother said when I took her to vote the last time (she never missed): "It's a lot easier to vote than to raise a fine son like my Raymond and have him die because of the war in the Pacific."

"The future of this republic is in the hands of the American voter."—Dwight D. Eisenhower

Domino Club



■Brian Huckins

MIX THOSE DOMINOS

The Oakmont Domino Club meets twice a week in the Central Activity Center Card Room: Wednesday afternoons at 4 p.m. and Thursday mornings at 9:30 a.m.



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. 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, beginners to experts. Please contact me at (415) 602-9083 or bvhuckins@gmail.com.

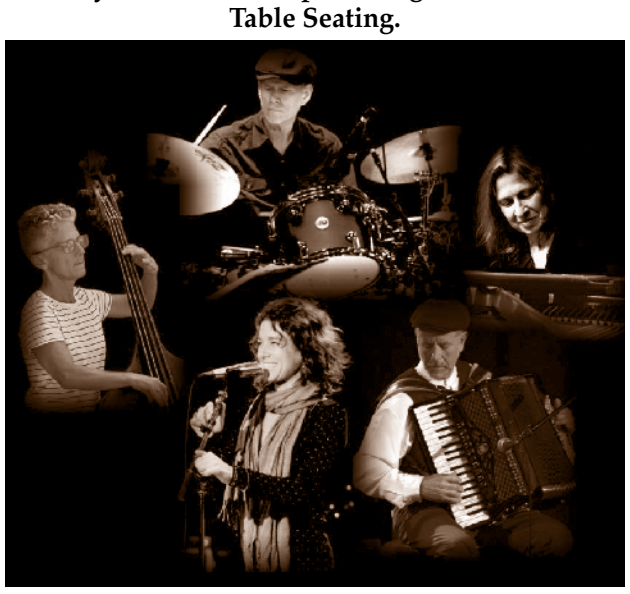
Lifelong Learning

■Marlena Tremont

TWO NOVEMBER CONCERTS

SONOMUSETTE

Friday, November 6, 7 p.m., Berger. Tickets $25. Table Seating.



Beneath the light of autumn's glow, you may hear a new tune in the wind. Perhaps the melody of a 1900s Parisian sidewalk cafe?

SonoMusette offers Oakmont a concert of timeless tunes in the style of French chanson. Music that reflects the depths of our very souls. You'll hear echoes of French icons Edith Piaf, Yves Montand, Jacques Brel, Charles Trenet, Georges Brassens, and Serge Gainsbourg.

Formed in 2016 by Robert Lunceford, accordionist and Mimi Pirard, vocalist. The band is accompanied by Jan Martinelli, piano; Tami Pallingston, upright bass; and Kendrick Freeman, drum set.

Discover the magic of Paris.

MORE JOY—AMERICAN TUNE

Friday, November 13, 7 p.m., Berger. Tickets $25. Theater seating.



Oakmont's home-town band presents the first 250 years of America through musical selections that touch hearts and unite communities.

Selections include stirring solos by pianist, Deborah Knapp. Folk songs from the civil rights protest era by guitarist Ann Benson. Musically humorous American tunes from the 1920s and 30s by bass player Chris Finn. And sweet country tunes from a born-in-the-South belle, Iris Harrell. Together, the band carries us into a celebration of light rock and soul from the Temptations.

"Our goal as always is to make our audience cry, laugh and feel lifted before they leave the building! Bringing more joy is our mission."

To register for concerts, go to OakmontLL.org, fill out a form with payment in the OVA office or pay at the door.



Kiwanis Club of Oakmont

■Charles Ensley

SHREDATHON ON THURSDAY; NEW OFFICERS

Are you getting your shredables ready? This Thursday, October 29 is our Shredathon, co-sponsored by OVA. Our drive-through event is at Berger Center, 9 a.m. to Noon, or sooner if the truck is full. Five banker-size boxes are the limit. Any donations go to our foundation for children's programs and scholarships.

And if you have your 2027 calendar ready, the next Shredathon will be Thursday, April 15!

The annual Kiwanis year began October 1 with a new annual budget and officers. Due to the unexpected death of our incoming president, four past-presidents have offered to step in for one calendar quarter each. They are Charlie Ensley, Fran Lazzarini, Jim Stewart and Ann Isaacs. Thank you all!! And at our second meeting of this new year, we took in two new members: Bob and Janet Pawlan. Welcome!

If you'd like to know more about what Kiwanis does for the educational benefit of children—from school dictionaries and library donations, sponsoring Key Clubs at Montgomery and Maria Carrillo high schools, college scholarships and financial support of local agencies serving children and families in need, why not drop by and try us out as the Pawlans did last month before joining?

We meet 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.

Let's Dance—Together!

■Terry Whitten

GET READY TO RUMBA IN NOVEMBER!

WHAT: Beginning Rumba Partner Dance Classes
WHEN: Wednesdays, Nov. 4, 11 and 18; 4–5:15 p.m.
WHERE: Lower West Rec.
COST: $12 pp for single class; $10 pp for 2 or more classes purchased at the same time
RSVP: Please contact instructor, Terry Whitten, to register in advance at twhitten@pacbell.net or call (415) 265-7590



In November, come join the fun on Wednesday afternoons and learn the basic steps of the rhythmic Rumba. Rumba is a Latin dance that is danced to slower music. The dance evolved from the Latin music made popular in the United States in the 1930's by orchestra leaders such as Xavier Cugat. Besides slower Latin music, there are also a lot of contemporary non-Latin songs that Rumba can be danced to including some by Celine Dion, James Taylor, Sting, The Eagles and Taylor Swift. A Rumba can even be danced to some slower Country songs!

No partners or experience are required. Classes will meet for three sessions in November to learn the most basic steps. Each class after the first will build on the material taught in the 1st week. We will rotate partners during the classes, although rotating is optional. Also, any ladies that want to lead and any men that want to follow are very welcome.

Join us for a fun way to get exercise and meet great people. A number of studies have indicated that partner dancing on a regular basis may reduce the possibility of cognitive decline and may actually increase mental acuity. Some even say that "dancing makes you smarter!" It is definitely good for our muscles, balance, brains and spirit!

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

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

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neill.ray@oakmontvillage.com

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robert.williams@oakmontvillage.com

Tom Kendrick, Treasurer
(Non-voting officer)
tom.kendrick@oakmontvillage.com

GENERAL MANAGER
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christel@oakmontvillage.com

OVA OFFICES

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

NEED A RIDE? GIVE A RIDE! OAKMONT VOLUNTEER HELPERS

COORDINATOR

Rides to Medical Appointments

October 16–31
Gloria Heinzi 707-843-0224

November 1–15
Maureen Schwartz 707-843-9160

We provide the following services to Oakmont Residents:
■ Transportation to medical/dental appointments in Santa Rosa only
■ Meals on Wheels 525-0383

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.

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CELLO LESSONS
Vi Taylor, cellist, new to Oakmont, is looking for cello students or string players interested in making some beautiful music together. Email her at taylor.vms45@gmail.com or call 774-263 2935..

JOSH BEGIN ELECTRICAL
Local, family-owned, 40+ years Contractor. Upfront flat-rate pricing. Panel upgrades, EV charger. Troubleshooting, landscape lighting, TV wall-mount, power receptacles, rewiring, fans, lighting. Call Josh at (707) 690-2541. Free Estimates. Lic. #461220.

GARAGE SALE TO SUPPORT PET WITH CANCER
Every Sat., Oct. 24–Dec. 19, until gone. All proceeds to pet with cancer. Many different household items only $1 or donation. Clothes X to XXL. Call for private showing other days. 6562 Stone Bridge in Oakmont.

LEE MOEN CONSTRUCTION
New construction, additions, kitchen and bathroom remodel, tile, carpentry, door and window replacement, siding, decks, fences, painting and sheetrock. Plumbing, electrical, and home repair and maintenance. GC license #966203. Please call (707) 318-5591.

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Oakmont Health Initiative
Free Fitness Classes

■Charlene Bunas

HALLOWEEN CANDY CALORIES EXERCISED AWAY VIA OHI CLASSES

OHI members often linger and visit after class. Recently a few people were at Karl's Kiosk and the conversation centered around exercise. And candy. Specifically, Halloween candy.

What began as a Celtic celebration of harvest and a New Year, Halloween today has morphed into a big deal with costumes, parties, and trick-or-treating. OHI members share memories:

Morgan says: "When I was six years old, I gobbled all my candy as soon as I got home from trick or treating. The next morning, I realized I lost my first tooth."

Linda describes her childhood neighbor: "We called her 'crazy Lynn' because, among other things she passed out cigarettes instead of candy. We were like eight years old."

Another member was a kid during WWII and had an old man neighbor who gave kids cough drops instead of candy because "It will do you more good."

Rob told about going trick-or-treating at age 19 with a bunch of college friends. "We knew we were too old, so we came up with a gimmick: Halloween carols. We changed the words of Christmas carols to be about monsters and candy and took our act to the front door of … our college president."

Jill wanted to save her husband embarrassment so declined to give his name. "One year I stayed home and gave out candy. My husband took our son to a party and came home about 9 with the wrong kid."

Photo by Charlene Bunas.



All who gathered that morning for coffee agreed: OHI classes allow a calorie indulgence once in a while. Patty says, "You can say we are allowed chocolate in moderation because we exercise like fiends." "It's all amount of moderation, "concludes Clara." The group, as one, nods.

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

Oakmont Writing League (OWL)



■Neill Ray

WHEN WE WERE TEN ANTHOLOGY LAUNCH PARTY

The Oakmont Writers' League (OWL) invites you to a reading of selected stories from our newly published anthology, "When We Were Ten." These short stories capture the authors' lives at age ten—spoiler alert: none of us was raised by June and Ward Cleaver.

Join us for refreshments and a chance to meet many of the authors. Block off 2–4 p.m. on Monday, November 23, at the East Rec Center.

When We Were Ten is available on Amazon, but arrive early to the East Rec. and you can pick up a signed copy—while supplies last. Proceeds from book sales benefit OWL and children's charities.

Come for the stories, stay to meet the authors!

Can't make it in person? Join us on Zoom: Meeting ID 854 7403 9980, Passcode 409566.

Thinking about becoming an OWL yourself? For the past two years, OWL has helped writers develop the creative skills they need to tell their own stories.





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