

OAKMONT NEWS

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Espresso Machine at CAC

There was an enthusiastic turnout for the Central Activities Center espresso machine celebration in mid-December. Chef Karl helped customers with their coffee orders, and residents



connected over coffee in the CAC lobby and back patio.

If you missed the event, don't worry—espresso drinks are now available in the CAC for a small fee. (Photos submitted by Marty Behr)



Next Steps Approved for Updating OVA's Governing Documents

■News Staff

The OVA Board voted unanimously on December 16 to proceed with a "compliance-focused" restatement of the Association's bylaws and CC&Rs with Adams/Stirling, following guidance from the Association's HOA legal counsel.

Rather than move forward with the three-part recommendation presented by the Governing Documents Committee (GDC) at last month's board meeting, the board instead will proceed with a restatement, limited solely to bringing OVA's bylaws and CC&Rs into compliance with current law.

"The Board carefully reviewed the recommendations provided by the GDC, including the suggestion to address legal compliance through targeted amendments," said board president Matt Oliver. "But after consideration and based on advice from the Association's HOA legal counsel, the Board determined that a compliance-focused restatement is the most appropriate and legally sound approach at this time."

Oliver thanked the GDC "for the time, effort, and thoughtful work they have devoted to reviewing the Association's governing documents. Their contributions have been valuable in identifying areas for consideration and helping inform the board's deliberations."

The board's action will provide members with a single, consolidated set of governing documents that is easier to read and understand, rather than multiple

See **BOARD** on page 5



Thank You

Dear Oakmont Residents,

Thank you so much for your generosity and thoughtfulness during the holidays. Your contributions to the OVA staff appreciation gift meant a great deal and truly brightened the season for our team.

We are grateful for your kindness and for the supportive, caring community you help create every day at Oakmont.

With appreciation,
Your OVA Staff

GM Report: Berger Assessment and Chatbot Update

■Christel Antone, OVA General Manager



OVA is currently working with Energy Systems Group (ESG) to complete a comprehensive assessment of the Berger Center facility. This review was prioritized due to the upcoming need to replace the building's boiler and chiller, and is intended to help the Association understand what work

may be needed, potential costs, and whether projects can be coordinated efficiently. At this stage, no specific project or direction is being proposed.

The assessment began with a kick-off meeting in November, followed by a site walk in December and ongoing check-in meetings. ESG is now in the engineering analysis phase and is expected to report back in late January, 2026.

As part of this process, ESG will prepare a Rough Order of Magnitude (ROM), which is an early, high-level cost estimate used to compare options and understand overall scale. It is not a final cost estimate. This information will help determine whether the options under review are feasible and aligned with expectations.

See **GM REPORT** on page 4

Sierra Dahl Joins OVA Staff

■OVA Staff

NEW MAINTENANCE ADMINISTRATIVE COORDINATOR



The OVA is pleased to welcome Sierra Dahl to our team. Sierra has joined the OVA staff as the new Maintenance Administrative Coordinator, serving as the connection between the maintenance and administrative offices, taking on the administrative tasks of the maintenance department, managing work orders, and partnering closely

with the event coordinator to ensure smooth setups for every event.

"I'm excited to work closely with the maintenance staff and other departments to keep Oakmont running smoothly, and knowing that my work directly contributes to a safe, comfortable environment for residents," Sierra said.

If Sierra looks familiar, you're probably right. Before joining OVA, she worked just down the street at Oakmont Market, where she served the community for the past 20 years. "I'm really excited that I still get to work and see the residents in this wonderful community," she said.

Outside of work, Sierra enjoys spending time with her family, from exploring local wineries with her parents and mother-in-law to tackling home projects with her husband. She also loves experimenting with new recipes and baking treats for family and friends.

Please join us in giving Sierra a warm welcome as she begins this new chapter with our team.

Holiday Facility Hours and Closures

■OVA Staff

The OVA Staff would like to wish you all a very happy New Year. Please refer to the list below for holiday hours for the OVA office and facilities:

Office Holiday Closures:

Dec. 31-Jan. 2, Wednesday-Friday of New Year's week—Closed

Facility Holiday Hours and Closures:

Dec. 31, Wednesday—New Year's Eve—Open regular times, closing at 5 p.m. including all pools and spas

Jan. 1 Thursday—New Year's Day—All Facilities Closed

Jan. 2, Friday—Open regular times, closing at 5 p.m. including all pools and spas



Tierney Muscatell at Century 21 Valley of the Moon



A big thank you to all my friends and neighbors in Oakmont Village for a successful 2025!



223 Belhaven \$715,000



6155 Orchard \$829,000



7310 Oakmont Drive \$1,100,000



7644 Oak Leaf \$870,000



6722 Fairfield \$885,000



8300 Sonoma Mtn Road \$2,500,000



6800 Oak Leaf \$755,000



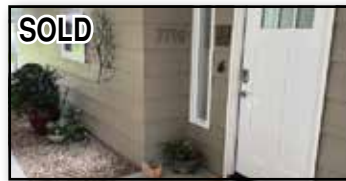
333 Oak Leaf Circle \$1,075,000



504 Deerfield Place \$715,000



431 Oak Brook Lane \$729,000



7710 Pythian Court \$649,000



351 Mockingbird Circle \$685,000



8819 Hood Mtn Way \$770,000



319 Laurel Leaf Place \$840,000

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

How to Recognize Scam Emails During the Holiday Season

■Oakmont Village Association

As we move through the holiday season, many of us are receiving more emails than usual—order confirmations, digital holiday cards, charity requests, and notes from family and friends. Unfortunately, this is also a time when scammers become more active, sending convincing emails designed to trick people into sharing information, clicking harmful links, or sending money.

While scam emails can appear at any time of year, the busy nature of the holiday season often makes them easier to overlook. A few simple habits can help keep you safe:

1. Check the real email address. Even if the sender’s name looks familiar, always take a moment to look at the actual email address. Scammers frequently use a recognizable name but pair it with an unrelated or unusual email address. If it doesn’t match the address you know, treat the message with caution.

2. Be wary of urgent or emotional language. Scam emails often use phrases like “urgent,” “immediately,” or “your account will be closed,” and during the holidays may reference shipping delays or problems with purchases. This type of urgency is designed to create panic so you act quickly without checking the details. When a message feels alarming, pause before responding.

3. Treat unexpected requests for money or personal information as red flags. Legitimate organizations and neighbors will not ask you to send money, purchase gift cards, wire funds, or share sensitive information through email. If a message asks for any of these things—especially during a season when donations and purchases are common—it is almost certainly a scam.

4. Avoid clicking unfamiliar links or opening attachments. Links or attachments in scam emails may lead to unsafe websites or install harmful software. When in doubt, do not click. Instead, visit the organization’s website directly by typing the address into your browser.

5. Verify through a trusted method. If an email seems unusual, call the person or organization using a phone number you already have, or send a new email to their known address. Verifying independently is the quickest way to determine whether a message is legitimate.

6. Report suspicious messages. Most email services allow you to “Report phishing” or “Mark as spam.” Doing so helps filter out similar messages in the future and supports broader efforts to reduce scam activity.

Learn more. For a comprehensive guide on recognizing and avoiding phishing scams, the Federal Trade Commission offers an excellent resource: www.consumer.ftc.gov/articles/how-recognize-and-avoid-phishing-scams.

Staying alert during this busy time of year can help protect both you and the Oakmont community. A moment of caution is one of the simplest ways to keep your holiday season safe and peaceful.

New Nonfunctional Turf Law AB1572 Explained

■Susan Miller and Debra Kiddoo for LOMAA

In November, LOMAA hosted representatives from the City of Santa Rosa Water-Use Efficiency Team to learn more about State law AB1572. (Note that AB1572 does not apply to the residential lawns of homeowners who are not in a sub-HOA.) Interest in this topic is high—there was standing room only. One of the key takeaways is that much remains to be clarified at the State level before the City of SR will finalize how this bill will be implemented and enforced.

The Water-Use Efficiency Team Coordinator, Lisa Cuellar, gave a helpful and informative presentation, followed by a Question-and-Answer session.

AB1572 will go into effect on January 1, 2029. At that time, potable water can no longer be used to irrigate nonfunctional turf on common property in sub-HOAs. However, the turf does not have to be removed (for details on this law, see www.NonFunctionalTurfCA.org). The purpose of this law is to address persistent drought and climate change impact on water supplies—potable water use for non-functional turf is considered wasteful and unsustainable.

Key Provisions:

- Non-functional turf is irrigated/mowed lawn that is purely decorative and not “regularly” used for recreation or public community gatherings.

- The State Water Resources Control Board will publish the final compliance and certification requirements by July 1, 2026. At that time, they must provide clarification if turf associated with residential homes in sub-HOAs is exempt and if turf under mature trees can continued to be irrigated to maintain the health of the tree.

- The City of SR is currently updating their Code of Ordinances due January 1, 2027 to reflect this new law.

- Sub-HOAs will need to self-certify compliance with the State Water Resources Control Board, beginning June 30, 2031.

- The City of SR can help support compliance through their Cash for Grass rebate program (www.srcity.org/watersmart). This program will not be available for sub-HOAs after Jan. 1, 2029 for turf removal in areas deemed non-functional.

As we wait for clarification, LOMAA is working with the Sub-HOAs to take the following actions:

- Send an impact statement from OVA and LOMAA to the State Water Resource Board with a recommendation to exclude Oakmont sub-HOAs, residential turf, or extend the compliance deadline.

- Explore common landscape design templates and plants lists .

- Continue education as more information is available.

- Make suggestions for sub-HOA planning: communicate with community; inventory total turf; prioritize “no-brainers” for conversion; explore financial options for turf conversion.

New Resident Reception on Jan. 15

■OVA Staff

New Oakmont residents, and those who would like a refresher on our community, are invited to attend an upcoming New Resident Reception at the Berger Center on Thursday, Jan. 15, from 6–7 p.m. This event is designed to introduce you to our vibrant community and provide helpful information about Oakmont’s unique lifestyle offerings.

Agenda highlights include:

- An introduction to OVA staff and leadership.
- Key architectural information to help you settle in seamlessly.
- An overview of clubs, facilities, and essential community resources.
- Information about emergency preparedness groups.
- Details about the Valley of the Moon Golf Course and restaurant.
- Time to connect with fellow residents and neighbors.
- A Q&A session to address any questions you may have.

Refreshments will be served.

This is a wonderful opportunity to meet your neighbors, build connections, and feel more at home in the Oakmont community.

E-Waste Collection



■OVA Staff

**SATURDAY AND SUNDAY,
JANUARY 24 AND 25, 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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Call for Board Candidates

■News Staff

Candidate nominations for election to the Oakmont Village Board of Directors are now open. There are three 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. Fill out the form that was mailed to you with your Notice of Voting Method and email it to info@pro-ei.com, or mail it to PO Box 390, Murphys, CA 95247.

3. Send an email to info@pro-ei.com that includes your name, the name of your HOA, and your HOA property address.

Candidacy submissions must be received by the Inspector of Elections by end of day January 16, 2026. A Pre-Ballot Notice will be sent on Jan. 30. Ballots will be sent on Mar. 4. The election is scheduled for Apr. 6 at 10 a.m.

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

Star of the Valley

■Peter Hardy

TIME FOR BINGO

Star of the Valley will present the first of the New Year Bingo on Tuesday, January 13 at 4 p.m. We ask that those attending arrive before 3:45 p.m. in order to purchase dinner and/or bingo cards and find a seat before the first game.

This month dinner will be Pasta Fagioli soup with garlic bread, and dessert. Cost of dinner is \$10. Bingo cards are \$2 each.

All are welcome and we look forward to seeing you for our first bingo of the year.

GM REPORT Continued from page 1

The assessment is examining three planning scenarios to help the board clearly understand the differences between options:

Scenario 1: Replacement of the boiler and chiller only, along with any required code-related upgrades. This represents the minimum necessary work.

Scenario 2: The required boiler and chiller replacement, plus reserve-funded projects already planned for 2026. This option explores whether combining projects could reduce costs and limit facility downtime.

Scenario 3: The required work, planned reserve projects, and limited functional improvements to the Berger Center focused on modest usability enhancements.

At this stage, ESG's role is limited to analysis only. No decisions are being requested. Once the assessment and cost ranges are complete, staff will return to the board and community with a clear comparison of the three scenarios to support future discussion and direction.

Approx Timeline and Next Steps:

Now: Engineering analysis is underway, with regular check-in meetings.

January, 2026: ESG provides engineering findings and preliminary cost ranges.

February, 2026: Staff reviews the findings and discusses feasibility with the board at an open meeting.

March, 2026 (anticipated): Information is presented to the Board for review, discussion, and direction on which scenario to pursue.

If directed by the board, the Association would aim to finalize the scope of work and submit plans by approximately July, 2026. Any proposed work would be coordinated with Berger Center users to minimize disruption.

WEBSITE CHAT TOOL UPDATE

Work is underway on a new website chat tool designed to provide Oakmont residents with clear, accurate, and easy-to-access information.

The chat tool is being developed as a resident-facing resource that answers common questions and helps residents find information more easily on the OVA website. Initial work has focused on developing and approving content, and setting up the framework needed to ensure the tool is reliable and user-friendly. As part of this process, staff is carefully distinguishing between public information available on the open website and member-only information, which will remain accessible only to logged-in members.

The chat tool will be launched in phases. The first phase will focus on approved frequently asked questions and basic resident information, and is targeted to go live at the beginning of the year. Additional features and integrations will be evaluated and added in future phases.

Updates will be shared with the community as the rollout progresses and milestones are reached.

Members May Now Opt-In to Electronic Voting

■Oakmont Village Association



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

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

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

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

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

Consent forms can be filled out online at oakmontvillage.com/electronicvoting, 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.

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

Progressives Club



■Ed Biglin

WHAT IS FASCISM

AND WHAT CAN BE DONE ABOUT IT?

On Monday, Jan. 12, Oakmont Progressives and Oakmont Democratic Alliance will sponsor a talk by Fred Glass, a teacher, author and labor activist. The talk/discussion will take place at the East Rec. Center, 6:30 p.m. social, 7 p.m. event.

What do we mean when we talk about Fascism? What are its origins and historical development? We often hear various groups, policies, and government actions called "Fascist." What do we mean when we use the word Fascist? Have people successfully organized to resist Fascism, and if so, how? And, perhaps more importantly, how do we understand what has been happening in the United States in recent years?

These and related issues will be the subject of the talk and discussion by Fred Glass. Labor historian Fred Glass is the former communications director for the California Federation of Teachers and author of *From Mission to Microchip: A History of the California Labor Movement*. Currently he edits the DSA state publication, *California Red*, for which he has written extensively on American Fascism and what to do about it.

All are welcome. Sponsored by the Oakmont Progressives and the Oakmont Democratic Alliance.

Disclaimer: 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.

Pickleball Corner



■Peter Copen

THE PICKLEBALL RULES POLICE!

No two pickleballers are exactly the same, as we all bring our own unique energy and personality to the courts. With that said, there are definitely pickleball types out there. Let's take a look at some of them.



Graphic by Peter Copen.

The Banger: This person hits everything hard! Dinking, touch, drops and finesse are not words in their vocabulary. The only thing bangers usually care about is winning, which is ironic because they don't use their brain and brawn to win, just their brawn.

The Purist: This person is the opposite of a banger. He or she loves the art of dinking—usually to a fault. Sure, dinking has a purpose, but it feels like these people dink for the sake of dinking, and every part of their game is soft even on shots that should be hit hard.

The Rules Police: If there were actual pickleball police badges, these people would wear them because it feels like their sole purpose is to make sure that everyone is following the rules. Did the server call out the score before serving? And was it said clearly enough? Did her toe graze the kitchen line on that volley? Was his serve hit a millimeter above his belly button?

The Everything Elsers: These are people who don't mind the sport of pickleball, but are really there for everything else. Maybe they like the socialization before, during, and after playing. Or perhaps they want to see and be seen in their flashy new outfits.

So, which pickleball type are you? Doesn't matter as long as you are playing and having fun.

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



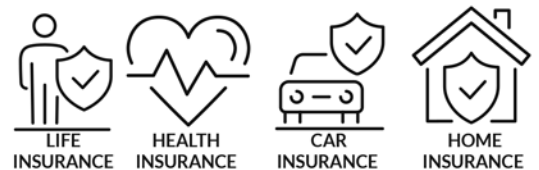
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Potential New Club: ECK Spiritual Adventures Club

■Kimberly Morris

SEEKING NEW MEMBERS

WHEN: January 16, 3–4:30 p.m.

WHERE: Central Activity Center, Birch Room

Have you asked, “Is that God speaking to me?” Are you looking to share, listen, and learn about spiritual experiences? The ECK Spiritual Adventures Club is a new club and welcomes those interested in deep explorations of spiritual topics.

During discussions, we share spiritual principles, spiritual insights, and personal experiences. As our hearts open, we learn that everyone gains access to truth and wisdom in their own time and often when we least expect it. We would love to laugh and explore together the spiritual experiences and golden truths many of us have gleaned from a spiritual life.

Eckankar, the Path of Spiritual Freedom, transcends philosophy and orthodox religion. It gives practical ways for people to have grounded spiritual experiences in this lifetime. The purpose of Eckankar is to help you to awaken to yourself as Soul, an eternal being, created by God. Soul chooses this current life experience and learns how to give and receive divine love from within this life and past lives. Eckankar offers direct, interactive, and spiritual practices with the Divine Spirit that can lead to a deeper understanding of Love, Wisdom and Freedom.

Within group, we will offer simple spiritual exercises, such as the HU Song, an ancient love song to God. Singing HU can open your heart to greater inner peace and divine love amid the apparent chaos of life. In group, we can share our personal stories and explore how they bring more spiritual awareness and love into our life.

We look forward to learning from all people and sharing our hearts. If interested, contact Kim Morris at (707) 312-6369 or ECKClubOakmont@outlook.com or visit California website at <https://.eck-ca.org>.

BOARD Continued from page 1

amendments layered over time. Completing this compliance work first establishes a clear and reliable foundation when additional updates to the governing documents come up in the future.

Any future phases beyond legal compliance could be considered separately and would include more in-depth community discussion. If additional phases are pursued, they will be communicated to the membership accordingly.

The board directed General Manager Christel Antone to obtain an updated proposal and timeline from legal counsel for preparation of the compliance-focused restatement documents, ensuring the Association’s governing documents remain valid, enforceable, and aligned with current law.

The board also stated that Governing Documents Committee members are expected to continue their involvement by reviewing the updated documents prior to a membership vote.

Updates will be shared as the process moves forward.

OVA INSURANCE POLICY FOR 2026

The Association’s insurance policies renew on January 1, 2026. The OVA received insurance quotes through broker Cline Insurance totaling just under \$300,000. The proposed coverage provides broader protection than last year’s insurance and includes general liability, automobile coverage, a commercial umbrella policy, directors and officers (D&O) coverage, fiduciary liability, earthquake, and flood insurance.

The estimate does not include the Association’s commercial property insurance, which renews separately in May.

By unanimous decision, the board approved the insurance proposal not to exceed \$300,000.



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

WINTER SPECIALS AND JANUARY EVENTS

Start the new year with more reasons to spend time at Valley of the Moon Golf Club, from a great winter lesson package and a January golf special to Trivia Night, live music, and a rotating lineup of OAK Restaurant all-day specials.

Winter Lesson Package: Sharpen your swing this season with a limited-time lesson deal. Purchase three 45-minute lessons with one of our golf pros for \$200, a \$70 savings. All lessons must be redeemed by March 31, 2026. To schedule, contact Khiana at kschmuhl@playvom.com or James at jperkins@playvom.com.

Trivia Night: Bring your team, grab a table, and enjoy a fun evening at OAK. First Tuesday of the month, doors open 4 p.m., Trivia from 5–7 p.m. \$10 cash cover charge at the door. To register your team, contact Khiana at kschmuhl@playvom.com.

January All-Day Specials at OAK: January special menu features a new all-day offering each week.

January 1: Steak Sandwich—Grilled bell peppers and mushrooms, choice of cheese, sourdough roll, fries, \$21.

January 8: Spaghetti with Red Meat Sauce—Garlic bread and small house salad, \$23.

January 15: Poke Salad—Asian slaw, fresh AHI poke, toasted sesame seeds, \$25.

January 22: Chicken Mole—Refried beans, Spanish rice, \$22.

January 29: Tuna Melt—Tuna salad, Swiss cheese, grilled rye bread, fries, \$19.

Live Music at OAK: Make it a music night at OAK with two January performances. Doors open 4 p.m., Music from 5–7 p.m., \$10 cash cover charge at the door.

January 5: Showcase Band

January 26: Coffey Park Band

January Golf Special: Stock up and save all month long. Purchase any one dozen golf balls and receive \$50 off your range card during the month of January.

Book Your Next Tournament or Social Event: Planning a tournament or gathering? We would love to help.

Golf tournaments: contact Khiana at (707) 539-0415 ext. 4 or kschmuhl@playvom.com.

Social events: contact Vanessa at (707) 312-2242.



■Ida Egli

DEMOCRATS CELEBRATE AND MOVE INTO THE NEW YEAR

The Oakmont Democrats Club joined the Oakmont Progressives to meet on Monday, Dec. 8 for the annual public holiday potluck. The food was incredible, wine was given away in a fun game, and a good time was had by 80 people. Louise Bettner added holiday favorites on the piano. Many thanks to all who attended and brought such delicious food.

On December 17 we discussed our goals and agenda for the 2026 bi-election campaign, including the implications of our new California voting districts.

Next Democrats Meeting: January 12, 6:30 p.m., East Rec. (second Monday of the month). Fred Glass, Director for the California Federation of Teachers, and instructor at City College of San Francisco, “How close are we, really, to Fascism in America.”

Next Oakmont Democratic Alliance Social: January 22, 6:30 p.m., East Rec. (fourth Thursday of the month)



■Marilyn Noah

JANUARY DINNER

The Cal Alumni Club of Oakmont’s first dinner of 2026 is on Thursday, January 15 at 5 p.m. at the Wild Oak Saddle Club. Cost is \$62 per person.

The January speaker is Annalise Schweickhart, PhD, of the Buck Institute for Research on Aging. Dr. Schweickhart’s topic is “Decoding Aging: How AI and Big Data are Shaping the Future of Precision Health.”

Dinners often sell out so if interested in attending, don’t delay! Club members may register and pay for dinner on the club website, <http://www.caloakmont.org>. Guests are welcome at our dinners. Contact oakmontcalalums@gmail.com for details on registering as a non-member guest.

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



■Jane Gyorgy

LOOKING BACK AT NOVEMBER, FORWARD TO JANUARY

At the club’s November meeting, members heard a presentation from Chris Coulombe of the Potter Valley Project. Coulombe outlined the Project’s findings regarding what he described as significant potential impacts to thousands of Californians in Sonoma, Marin, and Mendocino counties associated with the proposed closure of the Scott and Cape Horn dams, which he noted provide water to both the Eel and Russian rivers.

According to Coulombe and advocates of the Potter Valley Project, upstream areas play a critical role in the well-being of downstream communities and in the health of both river systems. From their perspective, this includes potential implications for farmers and ranchers, fisheries and environmental interests, and residents who rely on water for everyday needs.

They also point to rapid apartment development in cities such as Santa Rosa and elsewhere in California, which they believe could place thousands of new residents at increased risk if upstream water availability and infrastructure concerns are not adequately addressed.

Coulombe and supporters of the Potter Valley Project encourage Californians across the political spectrum to learn more about their position at savepottervalleyproject.org and to become informed and engaged through conversations, social media, and outreach to state and local elected officials. They emphasize their view that sustained public attention is necessary to prompt action from policymakers.

Looking ahead, Sheriff Eddie Engram will be the speaker at the club’s first meeting on Jan. 27. Members are invited to submit topics they would like addressed by January 5, and those suggestions will be forwarded.

Meetings are held on the fourth Tuesday, from 4–6 p.m., at the Berger Center, 6633 Oakmont Dr. Members and non-members may RSVP at TheNewOakmontCC@gmail.com or via the emailed invitation. Please include the first and last names of all attendees.



■Greg Fauss



HAPPY NEW YEAR!

This time of the year can be a struggle for many people. It's dark and everybody else seems to be celebrating, except ... For those who are experiencing life positively, it's important to remember and come alongside those who are struggling. This "carrying one another" through life is a significant part of our faith community and all are welcome to be part of it.

To that end we offer various weekly gatherings that lead to dinner parties and smaller engagements. One of those gatherings is church. Another is what happens afterwards, every fourth Sunday, namely a potluck!

Now I understand that potluck may not sound all that exciting, but month by month it offers the opportunity to sit at tables, to get to know one another better, to share, and to hear how others are doing.

If a loving community and supportive fellowship (no matter where you are in your faith journey) sound like a good thing for you in 2026, then join us on this last Sunday of the year or anytime next year.

Our Sunday Worship Services begin at 10:30 a.m. in the East Rec. Center. For information about our Wednesday Morning Bible Study, Thursday meetings in Oakmont Gardens, Saturday Prayer meetings, and other gatherings go to www.occsantarosa.org, write us at occsantarosa@gmail.com or call us at (707) 595-0166.

Ikebana

■Kathy Carter

LEARNING THE ART OF IKEBANA— JAPANESE FLOWER ARRANGING

The art of Japanese flower arranging, Ikebana, is centuries old. Over these centuries, many schools with their own unique styles have emerged.

Classes in Ikebana are currently offered at the Central Center art room on the fourth Wednesday of the month from 10 a.m. to 12 noon. Upcoming classes are January 28, February 25, and March 25. Emphasis is on utilizing plant materials that each student has readily available to them. The goal is to learn Ikebana in a relaxed and friendly environment.

The class is taught by Ron Kodo Brown, a certified teacher of the Sogetsu (Grass Moon) school of Ikebana. Ron has been a student and teacher of Sogetsu Ikebana for over 40 years. He holds the second highest rank in the school, KOMON. He has exhibited for many organizations in the Bay Area and in various states in the U.S., as well as several foreign countries.

The fee for the class is \$25 per session. The classes are ongoing with seasonal themes. You do not need to attend each class, and you only pay for the ones you attend.

Hope to see you there!

Those interested in attending these classes should contact Ron directly via email at kodobrown@gmail.com.

Oakmont Garden Club

■Patty McHugh



GROWING FRUIT YEAR ROUND IN SONOMA COUNTY

WHEN: Wednesday, January 14, 9:30–10 a.m. Social, 10–11 a.m. Presentation, Q&A follows

WHERE: East Rec., 7902 Oakmont Drive

SPEAKER: Dr. Jeff Pierce, Family and Lifestyle Medical Physician

Are you interested in picking fresh fruit from your yard throughout all four seasons? Join Dr. Jeff Pierce as he discusses how you can turn your yard into a lush fruit forest. The talk will touch on common and uncommon deciduous fruit trees, citrus, fruit vines and bushes and less commonly grown gems like avocados.

Dr. Pierce believes in the power of growing an edible garden. He will discuss the health benefits of stress reduction, time in nature, and connection with others. He loves spreading scientific research that shows how healthy growing some of our food can be. He and his family grow the majority of their fruits and vegetables in their urban garden in Santa Rosa.

We hope you have enjoyed the 2025 schedule of topics and speakers. Time to renew membership or become a member. Dues are unchanged, still just \$15 annually and covers all members of your household. Please pay by February 1, or you may renew at this meeting (some of you already joined for 2026 at an October or November meeting). You may also pick up an application at this meeting, complete and leave it, along with your check, in the Garden Club folder at the OVA (not Oakmont Garden).

Looking forward to another year of great presentations!

Valley of the Moon Rotary Club



■John Brodey

CRAB FEED—SAVE THE DATE!

The members of VOM Rotary are pleased to announce that our legendary Crab Feed will take place on February 28 at the Berger Center. This is our only fundraiser of the year, and it allows us to continue supporting a wide range of local nonprofit organizations that provide essential care to those in need.

The evening will feature our usual lineup of live and silent auctions, Fund a Need, the wine wall, and a raffle. The star of the show, as always, is our spectacular fresh, never frozen Dungeness crab.

We promise a wonderful evening for all, but we do want to share a few changes this year to ensure we can meet our fundraising goals. Last year, we were blindsided by a 100% increase in the cost of crab compared to the year before. As a result, ticket prices have increased to \$90, which remains a very reasonable value. Rising costs are, unfortunately, a fact of life.

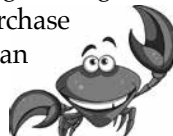
While bringing your own wine is still welcome, there will be a corkage fee of \$20 per bottle, payable at the door. In addition, the silent auction will feature on-site bidding only. Bid sheets will be placed in front of each auction package, which we think adds to the fun and excitement.

Our Fund a Need segment invites guests to contribute any amount they choose to a preselected cause. This year, it was impossible to overlook the very real and personal issue of food insecurity right here in Sonoma County. We are proud to support the Redwood Empire Food Bank, an incredible organization that, like many social service agencies, has recently lost government funding.

At its heart, this event is about doing good, together.

Tickets go on sale January 17. To purchase yours, please contact any VOM Rotarian or email Valerie.Hulsey@yahoo.com.

Let's eat!



Music at Oakmont



■Judy Walker

OUR FIRST CONCERT OF 2026

It's been quite a hiatus since our last concert in early November and I'm really looking forward to presenting our next event on January 17. I do hope you feel the same sense of anticipation as I do.

For this concert, we are featuring the Choi-Lee-Teicholz Trio, an intriguing ensemble consisting of violin, cello and guitar. Two of the artists, (Marc Teicholz, guitar and Angela Lee, cello) are members of the faculty of San Francisco Conservatory of Music, while the violinist, Jennifer Choi is based in New York city. All are eminent soloists in their own right as well as frequent chamber musicians.



Angela Lee, cello.



Marc Teicholz, guitar.



Jennifer Choi, violin.

The trio will perform an eclectic mix of mostly shorter works including familiar composers interspersed with lesser-known names. Their program covers a broad range of musical styles from a Baroque work by J.S. Bach and the classical periods of Luigi Boccherini, and Nicolò Paganini. Also included is a rousing tribute to the Tango by Astor Piazzola and a set of Balkan folksong miniatures by the Serbian-born American composer Dušan Bogdanović.

Please note, this is a Saturday afternoon concert so hopefully those that are unable to make the Thursday afternoon times will be able to attend this. For added interest, I

really encourage you to view the complete program and be sure to read the very entertaining Program Notes written by Rosemary Waller on our website: www.musicatoakmont.org.

Happy New Year to you all!

WHEN: Saturday, January 17, at 1:30 p.m.

WHERE: Berger Center

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



■Larry Souza

NEW YEAR'S EVE BASH 2025

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

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

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

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

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

For more information or questions, contact Linda Van Bockern at lvanbockern@comcast.net or (707) 328-9941.

Wii Bowling Oakmont Lanes



■Terry Leuthner

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

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

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

No bowling in December—break for the holidays.

Bowling dates for January: Jan. 6 (start Winter League 2026), 13, 20. No bowling Jan. 27 (fourth Tuesday).

RESULTS AS OF FALL LEAGUE TEAM CHAMPIONSHIP TOURNAMENT

On Dec. 2, the top 4 teams from the Fall League (Alley Oops, Strikers, 4 Tops and King Pins) bowled 3 games and the team with the highest total pins (with team handicap) won the Championship Tournament.

Results are: first place, 4 tops; second place, Alley Oops; third place, King Pins; fourth Place, Strikers. Congratulations 4 Tops: Peggy Ensley, Joanne Abrams, Laurel Earles and Robin Schudel (capt). “Fall ‘25—4 Tops” will be engraved on our Team Championship Trophy.

Men’s High Games: Mike Earles, 267; Glenn Hewitt, 225; Charlie Ensley, 235.

Women’s High Games: Joanne Abrams, 267; Laurel Earles, 258; Peggy Ensley, 258; Pat Scott, 256; Shirley Jamison, 208; Carolita Carr, 202; Donnarose Ilecki, 200.

Thanks to everyone who has made Oakmont Lanes so successful with all the fun and camaraderie you share together. If you’re thinking of joining us, we will start our Winter 2026 League on January 6, 2026. Most of us have all bowled on a bowling league some time in our lives and here’s your chance to do it again without the weight of a heavy bowling ball. Come see us in action and join in the fun.

Happy Holidays Everyone!

Spirituality Collaborative

■Geoffrey 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. Our first meeting of 2026 will be on Tuesday, January 13. We invite you to join our discussion.

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

Hikers



■Scott Finn

We welcome you to join us on a hike whether you are a member yet or not and the annual membership is only \$15. Go to our website at <http://www.oakmonthikingclub.org> to join the club, get hike details, club information, photos and more.

For a complete description of each hike and to register, please keep checking our website for updates.

JANUARY 1: LONG HIKE ANNADEL BUBBLY



Lake Ilsanjo, Annadel.

We will meet at the leisurely hour of 9 a.m. at the West Rec. Picnic Area to see in the New Year appropriately. Then ascend in Annadel SP, perhaps through clouds, for a spontaneous hike of 8 miles or so lead by our pied piper Randy Vincent. Bring lunch, water, etc. Hike leader is Randy Vincent, (707) 538-3530.

JANUARY 8: SHORT HIKE

NANCY’S RIDGE—ALL OF THE OAKS

We return to Healdsburg Open Space Preserve for a scenic walk along Nancy’s Ridge and All-the-Oaks’ well maintained trails that wind through various natural settings. About 2.5 miles with some climbing. Bring lunch or join us for lunch at Acorn Cafe.

Depart Berger 9 a.m.; check in by 8:50 a.m. Rain cancels. Bring poles, water. Return to Berger by 1 p.m. Check OHC website January 7 for weather or other updates. Jan Preston, jypreston@paccos.com, (949) 433-7330.

JANUARY 8: LONG HIKE ARMSTRONG REDWOODS

According to All-Trails the East Ridge and Pool Ridge Loop is only 5.7 miles with 1571’ elevation gain. We will plan to add some mileage and elevation depending on trail’s conditions. This is a pleasant mostly-shady forest hike. The trail is challenging but well-maintained. Above the forested area are open hillsides and ridgetops.



Armstrong Redwoods.

There is a creek crossing with no bridge that may create some wet footing near the end of the hike.

Start from Berger parking lot at 8:30 a.m. Bring lunch, water, hiking poles, perhaps water shoes. Hike leader is Cindy Toran, (707) 321-3262.

SAVE THE DATES

Saturday, Jan. 31, Berger Center, 5:30–8:30 p.m.: Oakmont Hiking Club 2026 Potluck Dinner Berger Center. Our annual potluck is always a big success with truly gourmet food. Our featured speaker(s) will be club member(s) presenting their recent international hiking experiences. Not to be missed. Bring potluck mains, side dishes/hors d’oeuvres or salads. The club provides desert and coffee. No charge except \$10 for guests, payable at the door. Please RSVP on the website so we can keep a rough headcount.

April 27–30: The Spring Trinighter. We will stay at Asilomar Conference Center at Pacific Grove near Monterey. More details to come with reservation information and hiking details revealed at the Potluck and in print coming soon.

Oakmont Pétanque Club

■Don McPherson

RULE ENFORCEMENT IN PÉTANQUE

The International Pétanque Federation (FIPJP) issues the official rules that are enforced through a hierarchical system of club, regional/state, national, and international umpires. Each successive level requires additional experience and certification. An International Umpire Commission issues interpretations for situations not expressly addressed by a specific rule.

In friendly, casual game like those played weekly in Oakmont, the rules apply but there are no umpires or penalties. For example, stepping on or outside the circle when throwing a boule is a violation, but enforcement falls to the opposing team to point out the foul and insist on compliance. Especially in club tournaments, a club-level umpire will enforce basic

rules without assessing penalties, measure disputed points, and manage play.

In national, regional, and international sanctioned tournaments, umpires enforce the rules via colored cards. A yellow card is an official warning for a minor infraction such as stepping on or outside the circle or minor bad behavior. Committing a second offense in the same game after receiving a yellow card results an orange card and the player’s last boule thrown being deemed dead. A red card is issued for a playing fault in the same game after receiving an orange card or a second instance

of bad behavior after a yellow card and, depending on seriousness, can result in expulsion of a player from the game or the remainder of the competition.

PÉTANQUE IN OAKMONT MONDAY, WEDNESDAY, SATURDAY

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



French International Umpire Patrick Grignon led a five-day training in Las Vegas in November for the Federation of Pétanque USA that certified 9 new National Umpires, 4 new Regional Umpires, and 5 new Club Umpires, including three umpires from the NorCal region. (Photo courtesy of Federation of Pétanque USA)

Jazz Club Classes

■Michael James

START THE NEW YEAR WITH MUSIC

The first of the year is upon us and making a New Year's resolution is on everyone's mind. New classes begin on January 9, at the West Recreation Center from 9 a.m. to noon. Bring your own instrument. The class levels are beginner to advanced and includes strings, wind instruments and percussion. If you don't have an instrument, we have a ukulele, guitar, trumpet, clarinet or trombone to borrow.

Music is great for your mind body and soul! Call mw for information at (559) 707-2750 or email mjamesblue71147@gmail.com.

Our guest performer for the month of January will be Doc Sevarese, who is a resident of Oakmont. Doc plays clarinet, tenor sax, harmonica and sings. His initial connection with the clarinet was in 1956, when he moved to California and joined a band to meet people. Prior to that, he never played any musical instrument and selected the clarinet because the only person he knew was another clarinet player.



Doc Sevarese.

He bought a music book and learned all the notes, and before he knew it, he was playing in college. He quit playing after graduation and didn't resume playing for 20 years. He only started playing again in the mid-80's for relaxation and pleasure.

In 2021, he became a founding member of the Oakmont band "Relish" and added tenor saxophone and harmonica to his clarinet playing. His story is an illustration that anyone can enjoy being a musician, at any skill level.

Doc will share his music and story of why he enjoys playing his favorite instrument, the clarinet. He will share the stage with other musical friends for the second hour and invites anyone with a musical instrument to come and enjoy the fun. Just bring your instrument and music stand and we will supply the music.

WHAT: Live Music with Doc Sevarese

WHEN: Wednesday, January 7

WHERE: East Recreation Center

TIME: 2-4 p.m. **COST:** \$5 suggested donation



Domino Club

■Brian Huckins

MIX THOSE DOMINOS

The Oakmont Domino Club meets every Thursday morning at 9:30 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.

Let's Dance Together!

■Terry Whitten



LEARN FOXTROT IN THE NEW YEAR

WHAT: Beginning Foxtrot partner dance classes

WHEN: Wednesdays, Jan. 7, 14, 21 and 28; 4-5:15 p.m.

WHERE: Lower West Rec. Center

COST: \$12 pp for single class. \$10 pp if two or more classes are purchased at the same time

RSVP: Please contact instructor, Terry Whitten to register in advance at twhitten@pacbell.net or call (415) 265-7590. Class size may be limited as Foxtrot requires more space than many other dances.

The New Year will be a good time to get those toes tapping and learn some basic Foxtrot dance moves! It is a classic dance done to a variety of music ranging from Frank Sinatra standards to songs by Michael Buble, Natalie Cole, Rod Stewart and even the Beatles and Stevie Wonder.

Over the four classes, we will build on the material taught each week so it is always best to start with the first class of the month. No partners or experience are required. Rotation of partners will be optional. Also, any ladies that want to lead and any men that want to follow are very welcome.

Partner dancing is a fun way to get exercise and meet great people. The basic steps of a different partner dance will be taught each month or two. Some studies also indicate that partner dancing may actually increase mental acuity and reduce the possibility of cognitive decline. It is definitely good for our muscles, balance, brains and spirit!

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

Oakmont Volunteer Helpers

■Matt Zwerling

VOLUNTEER HELPERS—

A VALUED SERVICE ORGANIZATION

It is time to start thinking about your New Year 2026 resolutions. I would suggest you add volunteering for Oakmont Volunteer Helpers to your list.

OVH is one of the most valued service organizations in Oakmont, providing rides for residents (for over 35 years) to medical appointments within Santa Rosa city limits. Being a driver has a number of real benefits for drivers: helping those with transportation needs (sometimes for medical appointments they would rather not have!), meeting and getting to know other Oakmont residents (this is typically really fun!), and being invited to a celebratory luncheon. There is actually no number of hours which you need to commit to driving. The only real requirement is to help get the resident to and from their appointment. The more drivers we have available the less often you need to drive.

OVH also has need for Coordinators, those who are the liaisons between the riders and the drivers. Much of the work is now done by computer other than speaking with the resident requiring a ride and the time commitment is less than 30 minutes/day for a two-week shift.

Call me (707-539-8996) or send an email (zwermd3@gmail.com) if you are interested. I can assure you the support you provide will be welcomed and appreciated.

Meditation

■Joanne Davey

MEDITATING TOGETHER

WEEKLY MEDITATION SESSIONS AT CAC

"Work in the invisible world at least as hard as you do in the visible."—Rumi

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

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

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

We approach meditation as a non-denominational practice.

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

Just for Fun Games Club

■Phillip Herzog

ANNUAL NEW YEAR'S EVE PARTY AND GAMES NIGHT GREAT IDEA FOR A NEW YEAR'S RESOLUTION

Are you looking for a New Year's resolution that is easy to fulfill? How about making your first resolution a promise to take a break from life now and then and play games! If you already play, resolve to learn how to play a few new games. Resolve to make some new friends—playing games! Or don't resolve anything and come to the party anyway.

To help you start off the new year by successfully keeping your first resolution, we want you to know that the Just for Fun Games Club will again be having our Annual New Year's Eve Party and Games Night on Wednesday, December 31.

The party will be held at the CAC Card and Games Room beginning with social time and a potluck supper at 6 p.m., followed at approx. 7 p.m. by playing the games that you choose to play. At 9 p.m. we will take a moment to welcome the New Year! Games will continue till 9:30 p.m.

This fun, casual party is open to all Oakmont residents and their family and friends. Don't worry about the cost, there is no charge to come out and play! Our club has a great selection of games on hand, but if there is a specific game you like to play, please request it and we will do our best to provide that game.

If you want to participate in the potluck supper, please plan to bring appetizers, salad, a main dish, side dish, or dessert to share (including serving utensils for what you bring). Also, please bring your own beverages. (Plates, cups, silverware, and napkins will all be provided.)

RSVPs are required if you would like to come join us on New Year's Eve!

When you RSVP, please let us know: (1) Your name and email address, and the names of your guests. (2) Will you be participating in the potluck supper, bringing what type of food? (3) What specific game(s) would you like to play?

To sign up for this event, or if you have questions, please contact Terry Parker at terrylynparker@gmail.com or call at (530) 758-9188.



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HAPPY NEW YEAR

*Thank you for your friendship,
goodwill and loyalty.
May happiness and good cheer be
yours throughout the New Year.
~From all of us at McBride Realty*



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Peggy Cummins
(707) 538-2270
Admin Assistant

McBride Realty Sells Oakmont

*Congratulations to Christine Stevenson, the winner of the 2025 Winter Warmth Coat Drive gift basket full of holiday goodies! In addition, we want to thank the Oakmont residents for their generosity in making over 820+ donations. Of course, we can't forget to thank Carolyn Greene for her dedication in helping to distribute these warm coats to the various charitable organizations.
Happy New Year!*

707-538-2270

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A Gift by Local Artist and Sculptor

In July, family and friends gathered to celebrate the life of Eugene Donner, a local artist and sculptor who resided in Oakmont with his wife Katherine for more than 30 years.

Gene's wish was to donate one of his totems to the Oakmont community that he sculpted from a fallen tree on the Oakmont grounds during the 2017 wildfires. The totem can be seen at the entrance of the Central Activities Center. Picture includes Gene's two sisters, and some of his many nieces and nephews.

A website was designed by Gene's family in his honor to share his artwork, totem sculptures, drawings and writings for all to see. You can view this website at: Eugenedonner.com.



Photo by Wendy Dunaj (Eugene Donner's niece).

Oakmont Art Association

■Linda O'Connor



The Ideal City. (Wikimedia Commons)

SPACE AND PERSPECTIVE

One-point perspective, developed during the Italian Renaissance, is only one of many ingenious methods artists have used to create the illusion of three-dimensional space on a flat surface. This system, based on parallel lines converging toward a single vanishing point, allowed painters to construct convincing architectural settings and guide the viewer's eye deep into the picture. Renaissance artists embraced this tool as a way to bring logic, harmony, and realism to their compositions.

Dr. Withers is professor emerita of the University of Maryland College Park, where she taught modern and feminist art history for more than 30 years. She is an internationally acclaimed public speaker, and has published extensively on 20th century and contemporary art. She wrote the first art historical article on Judy Chicago's Dinner Party, before it was even finished!



Josephine Withers.

In 2013 she sold her award-winning contemporary house in Maryland, and moved to California. She lives in Santa Rosa with her Poodle, Cricket.

WHEN: January 9, 10 a.m. refreshments, Program 10:30 a.m.

WHERE: Berger Center

Audubon's 126th Annual Christmas Bird Count in Oakmont

■Dawna Leigh

Did you feel the shaking around 3:30 p.m. on Sunday, December 14? Team leaders Dawna Leigh and James Foreman did—while birding along Woodley Place, an earthquake struck. Trees swayed, the ground rolled, and the two grabbed onto each other. Birding during a temblor? A first! When the shaking stopped, the birds had plenty to say. A raucous wave of alarm calls broke out, led by Acorn Woodpeckers. Nature's commentary, loud and clear.

The quake was just one of many surprises for eight intrepid birders braving a foggy, chilly day for Oakmont's Christmas Bird Count. By day's end, they tallied an impressive 67 species.

Early on at Sugarloaf Golf Course, a murder of crows gave away the presence of an uninvited guest—an American Barn Owl tucked into an oak. Nearby, a Wilson's Snipe burst from the leaf litter and skimmed the edge of a pond, where a Black-crowned Night Heron (a first-ever CBC sighting in Oakmont) stood intent on fishing.

Elsewhere, the birds kept delivering. A Say's



Tom Meade spotted this barn owl near the club house at Sugarloaf Golf Course.

Phoebe appeared at the Community Garden, right on schedule for winter. In Timber Springs, a female Belted Kingfisher made an appearance, joined by a Snowy Egret and a Townsend's Warbler along Channel Drive. As teams reunited near the Polo Field, a dazzling Red-breasted Sapsucker posed in a walnut tree. The grand finale? Varied Thrush and a Pileated Woodpecker calling from atop Oak Mesa late in the day.

Two free apps powered the count: eBird for logging sightings and Merlin for identifying bird calls. Curious who's singing outside your window? Try Merlin—and you might just find yourself joining the CBC in 2026!

Oakmont Cloggers

■Giselle Mottiez

NEW CLASS: INTRO TO CLOGGING

WHERE: Lower West Rec. Center

WHEN: Tuesdays at 3 p.m., starting January 27

COST: \$8 per class

What to wear: Please dress comfortably and wear hard-soled shoes if you have them. Tap shoes are fine but not required.

Info: Clogging is a lively American Folk Dance that is great exercise and tons of fun! Come join us for this beginning class where you'll learn the fundamental movements of clogging by integrating them into steps and dances. You'll be dancing in no time!

Instructor: Contact Michele Hill at RedwoodCloggers@gmail.com. Michele brings 40 years of dance experience and a great enthusiasm for clogging. She

leads a local clogging dance club (Redwood Country Cloggers), is a nationally known instructor, president of the Northern California Cloggers Association and hosts an annual clogging workshop in Santa Rosa that draws dancers from all over the western United States.



Photo by Michele Hill.



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Birders

■Carolyn Greene

FEEDING THE BIRDS

Around Oakmont you can see a variety of colorful bird feeders in yards. Many of us feed birds for the pleasure of observing them. But is supplemental feeding really necessary and safe?

Short answer: Yes, with some precautions. Extra food is helpful when birds need the most energy and have the least access to natural food, such as during extremes of cold and wet weather, during migration, and anywhere that natural habitat has been lost.

You've probably heard of avian flu. It's more common in domesticated birds such as chickens, but if you hear news reports about outbreaks among wild birds in our area, stop feeding for a while.

To help minimize bird disease transmission, use tube feeders rather than tray feeders, to keep birds from congregating in close proximity. Safer tube feeders have feeding holes spread around the cylinder so birds are more spaced out. Some tube feeders have coatings that resist mold and disease. Place feeders where birds can access a variety of perches. Worried about rodents? Choose "no-mess" seed mixes that reduce ground spillage. Look for higher nutrient and protein seed mixes in winter. Feeders can occasionally be put in your dishwasher or washed with mild bleach; always rinse carefully.

Everyone loves hummingbirds, and even in winter, Anna's hummers enthusiastically visit Oakmont nectar feeders. Fill with a 1:4 ratio of plain sugar to water—no dyes or supplements. The best thing you can do for birds is to provide habitat-friendly garden, with a source of food (especially native California plants), water, shelter, and a place to raise young. And don't use herbicides or pesticides in your yard. On New Year's Day, consider following the Scandinavian tradition of placing a little birdseed on your doorstep to bring good luck for the coming year!



Carolyn Greene with recommended tube and hummingbird feeders. (Photo by Greene)

Playreaders



■D. Hall

DISCORD AT THE DIOCESE

Following November's *Mass Appeal* and December's Holiday fare, Oakmont Playreaders present *Doubt*, by John Patrick Shanley.



In December, Playreaders celebrated the holiday season with cookies and hot cider after a reading of Lucy Montgomery's delightful short story, "Christmas at Red Butte" by veteran playreader, Ginny Smith. (Photo by John Dolan)

The play follows in the footsteps of *Mass Appeal* with its focus on a Catholic diocese. In the current reading, the question is: did a priest do something untoward or is his nemesis, the head nun, out to get him? Jim Preston directs his cast, including Steven Levin, Jeri Leasher, Sandy White, Leslie Tuche, and Margaret Applegate. Act 1 will be presented on

January 5 and Act 2 on January 12.

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.

Bocce Club



■Mary Piumarta

A VERY GOOD YEAR!

Lot of fun activities in the Bocce Club this year.



Tournaments, picnics, parties, tree decorating, holiday celebrations and meeting new friends were some of the happenings in 2025.

Join us in 2026. Submit an application with \$25. annual dues to the OVA office. We'll see you on the courts!

Members of the Bocce Club took part in the OVA's tree lighting celebration. (Photo by Mary Piumarta)



Canine Club



■Steve Huntley

2026 EVENTS ARE NOW POSTED!

The Canine Club's listing of 2026 events is now posted on our website at <http://www.oakmontcanineclub.org/events>. Some of these events are specifically for active Canine Club members so if you have not renewed your membership for 2026, please do so ASAP.

Currently, the upcoming club-member-only events are the annual Canine Club picnic at the West Rec. on Saturday, April 11 and the annual Members Appreciation Party at the Wild Oak Saddle Club on Wednesday, October 14. As we get a bit closer to those dates our club vice president Peri Olinger will be sending all club members the necessary RSVP information.

There's still time to join the club and enjoy these two members-only events as well as all the other club benefits including a weekly club newsletter and much more. Regular membership dues are \$12 for individuals and \$20 for households. Please go to <http://www.oakmontcanineclub.org> for more information.

The next special doggie play date at the Happy Tails Dog Park is the Berniedoodle/Bernise Mix Play Date on Saturday, January 31, 10 a.m.–12 p.m. And a reminder that the dog park is reserved for small dogs less than 25 lbs. from 3–4 p.m. every day of the week through April 30 (winter hours).



Murphy.

New Year's Eve is just around the corner! Although the last day of the year may be cause for celebration among humans, the fireworks that come with this holiday don't make it a celebration for pets. Just like the Fourth of July, this day is a good time to make sure pets are safely indoors, wearing ID tags, and distracted with soothing music, tv sounds, or cuddles. Importantly, as we enter the 2026 New Year, we can all celebrate that January is National Walk Your Dog Month. A great way to start the New Year!



Pogo.





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Tennis Club



■Diane Curtis

2026 OTC CALENDAR OF EVENTS

- January 17, 10 a.m., West Courts: Meet and Greet Round Robin
- February 12, 5-8:30 p.m., Saddle Club: Winter Social Dinner
- March 13, 9 a.m.-noon, West Courts: March Madness Blind Draw Tourney
- April 10, 5 p.m., West Courts: Spring Fling Social Mixer
- April 27, 5 p.m., West Courts: TenBeer Social
- May 5, 4:30 p.m., West Courts: Cinco de Mayo
- May 16, 9 a.m., West Courts: Hatfields vs. McCoys Showdown
- June: Summer Social, TBD
- July 11, 9 a.m., West Courts: Annual Wimbledon Whites & Woodies
- July 27-29, 8:45 a.m., West Courts: Grandparents Week Tennis Coaching
- August 7, 9 a.m., West Courts: Annual Army vs. Navy Tourney
- August 22, 8:30 a.m., West Courts: Saturday "Buckaroo"
- September 19, 5 p.m., West Courts: Fall Invitational Mixer
- October 7, 8:30 a.m., West Courts: Men's Doubles Tourney
- October 21, 8:30 a.m., West Courts: Women's Doubles Tourney
- October, date TBD: OTC Annual Meeting and Election of 2027 Officers
- November 4, 8:45 a.m., West Courts: Turkey Trot
- December, date TBD, Berger Center: Annual Christmas Tree Lighting



Thanks to Teri Hickey for spearheading the tree decorating. (Photo by Diane Curtis)

To guarantee a space (or spaces) at the February Winter Social at the Saddle Club, get your checks (\$70 per person) in starting in January. Make checks payable to the Oakmont Tennis Club and leave them in the OTC folder in the OVA office. Cost includes appetizers, salad, protein, starch, dessert and wine. Pre-dinner wine and cocktails will be available at the bar for \$5. Music will be provided by popular local keyboardist and vocal musician Nick Foyer.

Dues (\$30 for 2026) also will be due in January.

And one other thing: If you're an OTC member who is not receiving Rex Fuller's OTC email notifications, please send your name and email address to hellooakmonttennis@gmail.com.

■Debra Kiddoo

VOM Niners

VALLEY OF THE MOON WOMEN'S NINERS CELEBRATE THE SEASON

The VOM Women's Niners gathered on December 4 for their annual Holiday Luncheon, a festive afternoon beautifully arranged by Colleen Casey at Salt and Stone. Members enjoyed good company, great food, and the chance to celebrate another successful year on the course.



Shay Kosta and Kathy Camp. (Photo by Maureen McGettigan)

A highlight of the event was recognizing the winners of the Club Championship, the Niners' most anticipated competition of the year. After rounds filled with skillful play and friendly rivalry, two golfers came

out on top: Low Gross—Shay Kosta, whose consistent and steady performance earned her the top spot; Low Net—Kathy Camp, celebrated for her excellent play and strong finish in a competitive field.

Additional honors rounded out the afternoon: Most Improved Player: Vicki Eschelbach was recognized for lowering her handicap by an impressive 6.1 strokes.

Birdie Pins: Congratulations to Linda Yates, Pat Paulson, Diane Smalley, and Vicki Eschelbach for scoring birdies this season.

Chip-In Champion: Nancy De Sousa earned bragging rights for tallying the most chip-ins.

The Niners extend their appreciation to everyone who contributed to a fun and successful year of golf, camaraderie, and community. Join us for another great season ahead!

For membership information, contact Kathy Camp at kreate4u@yahoo.com, or Susan Hazelwood at sth237@yahoo.com.



Christmas 2025. (Photo by Maureen McGettigan)

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OTLC Oakmont Technology Learning Center

■John Tan

KEEP YOUR PERSONAL INFORMATION SAFE FROM HACKERS

During the holiday season, scams become especially common, posing risks to both your finances and your overall well-being. To stay protected, keep yourself informed through trusted news sources, financial institutions, and security groups. A healthy dose of vigilance goes a long way—always pause and question the safety of any request or decision you’re asked to make.

Many computers have built-in tools that flag unsafe websites and block suspicious activity. These can be helpful, but they aren’t foolproof. Email scams are widespread as well. Hackers may gain access to someone’s account and send messages that appear to be from a friend or family member, often asking for money in the form of gift cards.

Scammers are also using artificial intelligence (AI) to mimic voices and trick people into transferring funds. Sadly, cases of significant financial loss due to these tactics have already been reported. Gas stations have also been cited as hotspots for information theft through devices that capture your card details when swiped.

Be cautious of messages that begin with something like, “Hi, can you do me a favor? I need to send money for an urgent surgery, but I’m unable to do it myself. Can you buy a gift card and I’ll pay you back when I’m better?” Another common tactic is an email or text claiming your Norton Anti-Virus subscription has been renewed for \$395, followed by a link to dispute the charge. That link leads to a fraudulent site designed to steal your personal information. Do not click it—simply delete the message.

QR codes can also be used in scams. They may redirect you to a malicious website that installs malware on your device. Only scan QR codes from reputable businesses or sources you fully trust.

Staying aware and cautious can help you safeguard your personal information and enjoy a safer holiday season.

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.

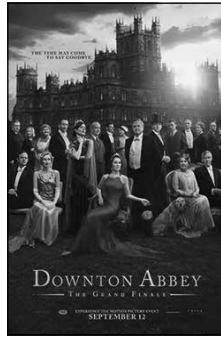
DECEMBER 28: HOME ALONE

Aneight-year-oldtroublemaker, mistakenly left home alone, must defend his home against a pair of burglars on Christmas Eve. 1990, PG, 1:43.



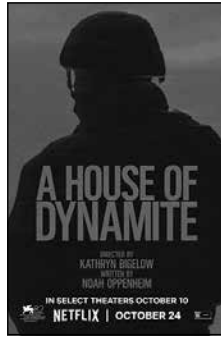
JANUARY 4: DOWNTON ABBEY GRAND FINALE

When Mary finds herself in a public scandal and the family faces financial trouble, the household grapples with the threat of social disgrace. The Crawleys must embrace change with the next generation leading Downton Abbey into the future. 2025, PG, 2:03.



JANUARY 11: A HOUSE OF DYNAMITE

When a single, unattributed missile is launched at the United States, a race begins to determine who is responsible and how to respond. 2025, R.



JANUARY 18: ESCAPE FROM GERMANY

1939, Hitler’s army was closing borders, and 85 American LDS missionaries were in Germany serving their church. The escape of these missionaries from Nazi Germany is one of the most dramatic events to occur in modern church history. 2024, PG, 1:37.



Great Decisions

■George McKinney

JOIN YOUR NEIGHBORS IN DISCUSSING GREAT DECISIONS

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

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

You don’t need to be an international affairs expert to participate. Each of us brings a fascinating personal

perspective from a lifetime of learning, experiencing, and traveling. Occasionally we have a neighbor with particular knowledge of the part of the world being discussed, and we all benefit from that.

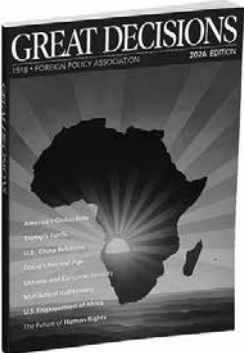
Meetings for 2026 are 10 a.m.–12 noon on Monday mornings every other week from early February through mid-May in the East Rec. Center. The eight topics for 2026 are:

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

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

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

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



Lifelong Learning

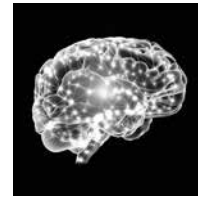


■Marlena Tremont

CLASSES START SOON!

RACE, CLASS AND GENDER IN THE AMERICAN EXPERIENCE
MONDAYS, JAN. 12, 19, 26 AND FEB. 2, 3–5 PM, BERGER

4-weeks. Cost: \$65 or \$48.75 with discount
Instructor: Andre LaRue



THE NEUROLOGY OF AGING
WEDNESDAYS, JAN. 14, 21, 28, 3–5 PM, BERGER

3-weeks. Cost: \$50 or \$37.50 with discount
Instructor: Allan Bernstein

Instructor: Allan Bernstein

MUSICAL THEATER
THURSDAYS, JAN. 15, 22, 29, AND FEB. 5, 12, AND 19, 2–4 PM, EAST REC.

6-weeks. Cost: \$95 or \$71.25 with discount
Instructor: John Kendall Bailey

(Note: Early start time)



PLAYFUL POETRY
WEDNESDAYS, FEB. 4, 11 AND 18, 3–5 PM, BERGER CENTER

3-weeks. Cost: \$50 or \$37.50 with discount
Instructor: Stacey Alysa Dennick

GENETICS FOR NON-SCIENTISTS
MONDAYS, FEB. 9 AND 16, 3–5 PM, BERGER CENTER

2-weeks. Cost: \$35 or \$26.25 with discount
Instructor: Dennis Drayna

Purchase multiple classes for the same person at the same time and save 25%. For more information or to register, go to OakmontLL.org, complete a flyer in the OVA office or pay at the door.

Oakmont Movers and Groovers



■Denise Lindsey

KICKING OFF OUR 2026 SCHEDULE OF EVENTS!

We’re excited to launch a brand-new year of activities, gatherings, and community connections. Be part of it from the start by joining or renewing your membership for 2026 and continuing to enjoy our community’s activities and connections!

Time for all events: 5–9 p.m.

February 7: Bingo

March 14: Anthony Paule Soul Orchestra

April 1: Rhythm Drivers

May 16: Vodka Tasting with Comedian Jason Love

June 5: Pride and Joy SF

July 25: Christmas in July with Eddie & the FOGG

August 6: Club Night with DJ

September 5: Spike Sykes and the Awesome Hotcakes

October 3: The SoulShake

November 14: Hey Jude

December 17: Member Party

HOW TO PAY YOUR DUES

Online registration is coming soon. For now, please go ahead and visit the OVA Office and place \$10 in the designated folder: Renewals—name only; New Members—please complete the membership form.

Your early support helps us plan and grow our events—thank you!

Questions: reach out to omgclub2025@gmail.com.



Oakmont Health Initiative Free Fitness Classes

■Charlene Bunas

THE UPS AND DOWNS OF SUGAR AND SONG

Bakers and hosts were busy for weeks, planning parties and preparing holiday treats. Guest readily consumed.

Traditions are formed and turn holiday treats into memories. They also sabotage. Overindulgence during December proves how quickly a plate of cookies disappears. As one OHI member reluctantly admitted, "Once I start, I cannot stop." Her friend laughed, "I've eaten an entire box of Oreos in one afternoon."

They are not alone. Studies have shown that there's a link between too much sugar and out of control indulgence. Sugar releases dopamine in the body and the body learns to associate sugar with feeling good. As more sugar is eaten, less dopamine is naturally released making it essential to ... eat more sugar.

Additionally, too much sugar triggers the release of pro-inflammatory triggers. Stiff joints, muscle aches, arthritis, diabetes, heart disease and obesity can eventually result. Depression adds to this assault.

Thankfully there are other choices to feel good:

1. Choose alternate behaviors. Regular exercise, sufficient sleep and sunlight to increase the release of dopamine.

2. Activities such as setting and achieving small goals or learning a new skill lend to that feeling of reward.

3. Don't have temptation near you. Don't buy it, don't bake it and don't position yourself near it.

4. Don't volunteer to bring dessert.

5. And, very importantly, sing. According to Dr. Allen Bernstein, music stimulates many areas of the brain. Singing is a strong link to improving memory. And life.

6. In this new year, turn away from sugar temptations and embrace movement and music. This single shift may just contribute to a very positive 2026.

OHI exercises are moderate to challenging and newcomer Oakmont residents may want to talk to health providers about advice. Mon., Wed., Fri., 9 a.m. at Berger.

Zoom ID 850 1489 7161/998608.



JoRene leads in circle exercise.
(Photo by author)



Nicole leads in light weights.
(Photo by author)

Oakmont Singles Social Club



■Bailey Penzotti

JANUARY MIXER

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

WHERE: East Rec. Center

Happy New Year Everyone! For our first Club Mixer of 2026, we'll get together to play some games, gossip about the holidays and discuss our New Year's Resolutions. Please bring an appetizer or dessert to share, and as always... your 2026 beverage of choice. Lemon water will be provided.

Please RSVP via our website, <http://www.oakmontsinglessocialclub.org> or email your Activities Director, Kat at KAT9433@icloud.com no later than January 12. If you need assistance with the website, please contact Alan at alans25028@hotmail.com.

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

JANUARY BON APPETIT (OSSC MEMBERS ONLY)

WHEN: Thursday, January 8

RESTAURANT: Los Tres Chiles Cocina Mexicana, 2765 Yulupa Ave., Santa Rosa

"Mi casa es su casa!" This restaurant is a local neighborhood Mexican restaurant known for their comfortable dining experience and warm, gracious service, every guest is made to feel relaxed and at home. Indulge in outstanding, authentic-style Mexican food everything from carne asada to fish tacos to savory enchiladas. Experience this taste of tradition!

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

Reservation cutoff is January 5 or when the 20 slots are filled. If there are 20 members confirmed before this date, you will be placed on a waitlist. RSVP on our website: <http://www.oakmontsinglessocialclub.org> or email Simone Smith at ssmith8151@aol.com.



OSSC Prez Bailey at NYE Party. (Photo by Linda Doane)

DO YOU LIVE IN OAKMONT? ARE YOU SINGLE?

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



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.

Kiwanis Club of Oakmont



■Richard Osborne

The Kiwanis Club of Oakmont recently completed its annual service project supporting individuals undergoing chemotherapy. Throughout December, members collect items that help entertain and comfort patients during their time in the Oncology Room. Donations include Sudoku books, playing cards, colored pencils and coloring books, candy, and other small treats.

During a regular Kiwanis meeting, stockings are passed around the room for members to "stuff" with these thoughtful gifts. A volunteer then delivers them to the Oncology Room at Kaiser Hospital, where they are handed out to patients receiving treatment. Faces light up as patients explore the surprises inside their stockings, and the gesture brings joy and distraction during a difficult time.



Stockings for cancer patients.

Our club is proud to be a major provider of these warmly received gifts—just one example of the many ways we serve children, families, and the broader Sonoma County community.

Kiwanis also visited La Luz on Thursday, December 4. We were warmly welcomed by Mikaela and Sandy who provided us with an informative tour.

La Luz's mission is to provide essential services to their Latino neighbors. Their main offices are in Agua Caliente (Warm Springs). What began as a single small office has grown into multiple locations with 23 full-time staff. They now operate out of a building that once housed a Methodist Church.

This year marks 40 years of La Luz serving the community. They assist more than 2,500 clients annually, offering an impressive range of classes—from English language instruction to basic life-skills education. They also run a preschool program, a crucial resource for many children who might not otherwise have access to early learning opportunities. As we all know, preschool lays the foundation for success in elementary school.

La Luz's funding comes from State of California and Sonoma County grants, along with generous donations from private organizations, including contributions from our own club. You may recall that we collected toys for their La Posada celebration.

After the tour, we enjoyed lunch at La Hacienda, a wonderful restaurant known for its generous portions of delicious Mexican food. If you haven't been, I highly recommend adding it to your list of places to try.

In a sad note, on December 8, 2025, we lost one of our senior members, Wendell Freeman age 103.



Wendell Freeman.



SIR Branch #92

■Carolita Carr

SIX MONTHS OF INTERESTING SPEAKERS

The SIR vision is to become the best active seniors' organization by improving longevity through providing opportunities for physical, mental and social engagement. And SIR 92 here in Oakmont takes that vision seriously! We have a luncheon with a speaker on the second Tuesday of the month, beginning at 11:30 a.m., and a variety of outside activities/events, sure to appeal to all.

Our membership includes both men and women, and we are currently seeking new members—anyone who agrees with our vision. We invite prospective members to attend our “no host” luncheons (\$35 per person) to check us out. Just make a reservation by contacting Sherry at smagers9@gmail.com or (707) 486-2310.

Below is the calendar of speakers for our luncheons for the next two months:

January 13: Carmen Benavides—topic centered on Alzheimer's disease

February 12: Anne Belden and Paul Gullixson—authors will discuss their book *Inflamed* (Tubbs fire)

Oakmont Village Library



■Marilyn Pahr

FALL INTO READING

Oakmont residents, you're sure to find something to enjoy—no fees, no due dates, no library cards, no sign outs—just browse and take them home or relax in the comfortable reading areas. The library is located in the CAC (Central Activity Center) and is open from 6 a.m.—9 p.m. 7 days a week.

Our shelves are bursting with books. The library accepts donations but please, only pristine copies, recent bestsellers in hard back preferred. No old textbooks or academic materials—we've already graduated! If you have more than 12 items, please contact the library first—do not drop off materials at our door.

The Oakmont Village Library volunteer team welcomes you to join this active group. Each volunteer spends about 4 hours a month processing, sorting and shelving library items.

To volunteer, donate or inquire, email oakmont.villagelibrary@gmail.com for more information.

Keep Active Yoga

■John Ferreira

YEAR IN REVIEW

We are a committed, welcoming, and encouraging group of yoga practitioners. Committed meaning our core group practices more than half the classes offered. We have an additional leader who helped us present over 150 classes this year. Welcoming because that's our nature and encouraging because that is necessary for a strong yoga community.

Yoga has rejuvenating and healing qualities that helps manage the experiences of our mind and body. Every muscle and connective tissue gets stretched and compressed in class. All postures address the spine. The result is a union between the mind and body.

We start with a breathing exercise which is a little deeper than a normal conscious breath. This helps improve the elasticity of the lungs. During the standing series we do 16 stretches/postures, helping to improve circulation, followed by a short relaxation to quiet the mind. The floor series uses 15 stretches/postures, followed by another breathing technique and relaxation. We repeat the postures and breathing techniques every class. The result is a fresh opinion of our mind, body, and the world. Well, that's a goal and we keep practicing.

Classes are at the West Rec. on Sun. and Mon. and at my home on Wed., all at 3 p.m. New members welcome. No fee. Come to class expecting to accept who you are, mind and body, and then to focus on yourself. You are the most important person in your world for that hour. We practice what we call “Oakram.” Oak(mont) because we have adapted the (Bik)ram style of yoga to our present aging bodies.

Oakmont Sunday Symposium

Berger Center, 7902 Oakmont Dr.

Sunday, 10:30 a.m.–12 noon

\$3 donation

www.oakmontsundaysymposium.org

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



■Judie Coleman

JANUARY 11: DR. EMMA GLASS, BUCK INSTITUTE
SMALL, SNEAKY AND RUNNING THE SHOW: THE BACTERIA DECIDING HOW YOU AGE



Emma Glass, PhD, is a Research Scientist at the Buck Institute who uses computer simulations and AI to uncover how the tiny microbes living inside us may be quietly shaping how we age. She'll break down why understanding these invisible organisms could change everything we know about staying healthy and living longer.

JANUARY 18: MARK STAPP, MAYOR OF SANTA ROSA
FROM FIRE SCARS TO FISCAL FEARS: OUR MAYOR'S VISION FOR SANTA ROSA



Beginning his second year as Santa Rosa's Mayor, Mark Stapp will provide insight on the upcoming year—from hiring a new City Manager to handling a once in a generation budget crisis. He'll highlight key issues facing the community. Expect a candid, forward-looking view of the city at a pivotal moment in its history.

JANUARY 25: LEONARD MCMAHON, PACIFIC SCHOOL OF RELIGION
BLESS THIS MESS: FAITH AND POLITICS WHY DEMOCRACY NEEDS CONFLICT



Conflict isn't something to eliminate in a democracy—it's the fuel that drives real engagement. Mr. McMahon shows how we can move from toxic discord to productive disagreement rooted in ethical reflection and collective moral imagination. The method he uses is effective, simple to learn, and surprisingly hard to forget.

FEBRUARY 1: SUSAN FARREN, RESILIENCY1ST.ORG
BATTLING THE STRESS OF PTSD: SAVING THOSE WHO SAVE US



Susan Farren fought her way through a lifetime of harrowing challenges and her own battle with PTSD—fuel that drove her to found First Responders Resiliency, Inc. Hear the gripping story of her resilience, her healing, and the creation of a groundbreaking program reshaping the well-being of those who risk everything for us.

FEBRUARY 8: JULIANNE BRADBURY, PEPPERWOOD
BACKYARD BEASTIES: MEET THE CUTEST LITTLE MONSTERS AROUND



Curious about the hidden world of creatures crawling, hopping, and sunning themselves in your backyard? Environmental educator and scientist, Julianne Bradbury, will help you discover the extraordinary amphibians and reptiles living just outside your door—and why their survival is more connected to yours than you might imagine.

FEBRUARY 15: TERRY EBINGER, CINEMAANDPSYCHE.COM
FORBIDDEN LOVE, HOLLYWOOD STYLE: ROMANTIC COMEDY TAKES ON THE CENSORS



In 1934, the Hays Code imposed harsh censorship, banning nearly all on-screen sexuality. In response, the “Hollywood Comedies of Remarriage” cleverly slipped forbidden desire past the censors with sparkling innuendo, absurd romantic games, and star-power royalty. These were clever and stylish acts of rebellion. They tempered the fire... which fueled the desire...

Oakmont Parkinson's Support Group

■Christine Nota

ACTIVITIES INCLUDE SPEAKERS, EXERCISE CLASS AND PING PONG!

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

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

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

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

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

Stay on Track with Your Fitness Goals This Holiday Season

■John Phillips, Fitness Instructor

Here we are again at the start of the holiday season. Consider this your gentle reminder not to overeat or overindulge in drinks, and to enjoy yourself while still keeping your goals in mind. About 80% of reaching your fitness goals comes from what you put in your mouth. This applies to weight loss, weight gain, and muscle gain. If you're not fueling your body with the right foods, you're not going to get the results you want. As the old saying goes, "garbage in, garbage out."

Moderation is key to maintaining or slowly changing your physique, unless you have heavy-duty goals that require more work. As long as you're taking in appropriate amounts of protein, carbohydrates, and fats, you should be fine. In fact, it may be easier to increase your workouts a bit rather than strictly monitoring every bite you eat. And don't forget, dancing is a great form of exercise—just be careful out there.

Also, a quick reminder to drink plenty of water. Having a glass before you eat can help you avoid overeating, since it fills the stomach a bit and can support digestion.

If you have any questions about this article or anything related to exercise, please stop by the Fitness Center, call or text me at (707) 949-9086, or email me at wkuout2@aol.com. A great way to improve or add new exercises is by attending one of my seminars, held every Tuesday at 1 p.m. and Thursday at 3 p.m. Each week covers a different topic, so check the board at the entrance of the Center for details. I also provide an orientation every Friday at 10 a.m., where I demonstrate six machines, show you how to set them up, and let you try them out.



■Carolita Carr

2026 CALENDAR

- January 22: Bingo
- February 21: Illegals
- April 25: Traveling Wilburys Revue
- June 27: Ronstadt Revolution
- August 22: Sun Kings
- September 17: Trivia
- October 24: Decades
- December 11: Membership Dinner

The year ahead looks fantastic! We're bringing back some of your favorite bands and introducing a few new ones. Events sell out quickly, so register early to reserve your spot.

MEMBERSHIP

Membership is open to all Oakmont residents. Dues are \$15 per person, per year, payable on our website at oakmontboomers.org.

Strength and Balance Class

■Valerie Hulsey

MARY'S FITNESS CLASS

The Balance and strength class is held every Friday 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 \$5 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.

Bring water and come and have some fun and improve your balance at the same time.

Slot-Car Club

■Ray Wells

XMAS WEEK SLOT-CARS

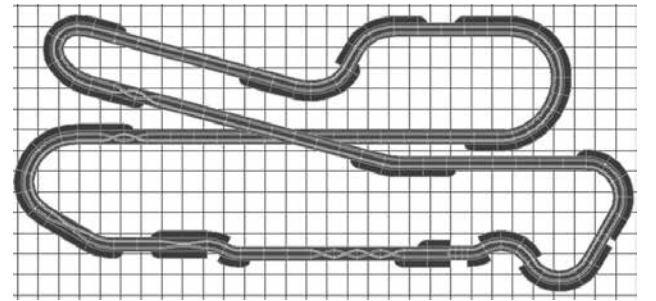
The Slot-Car Club will be running a three-day meeting on December 27, 28 and 29 at the Sugarloaf Clubhouse, at the end of Oak Vista Court (East golf-course entrance). Sign-up sheets are at the OVA office showing hours of operation. There are no age restrictions.

The track will host 10-minute races every hour for those in attendance and run open practice otherwise, with driver rotations every 20 minutes if we get busy. We will also use a rule that cars crashing during the final minute of a race are out. What we found at the last event was careful drivers beat those pushing the limits.

There is a stable of 18 Carrera 1/32 GT cars, and six cars run on each digital track system. During races we will enable fuel mode, meaning cars will slow dramatically when out of fuel and drivers need to stop in the pits. We will have a hand-out on how to refuel as it's quite challenging.

Carrera has released a new set of NASCAR cars which would be a good class to expand into, if members want to buy their own.

Please drop by even if you don't sign-up, to see what it's about. If you have questions, please text me at (707) 540 2827.



Track design by Ray Wells.

Café Mortel



■Linda Suhr

CHOICE AND PLANNING AT LIFE'S END

When it comes to where Americans die, trends have shifted over the decades. Historically and into the 1950s, the majority of people died at home. Medical care and attitudes changed dramatically so that by the 1990s, more than 80% of people died in hospitals or other institutions. Currently about 50% of people go home on hospice to die. Granted, we can't always choose where we die, but often we are able to make that choice. How do we know what choice is best for us?

The best way to have our wishes honored is to educate ourselves about options, discuss our priorities and wishes with the people who matter, document them and update them as our situation changes.

Café Mortel is where people come to learn and discuss information on preparing for the end of life. Our next meeting will be an open discussion-in-the-round on January 14 from 3-4:15 p.m. in the East Rec. All are welcome.

NEW EOL PLANNING WORKSHOP

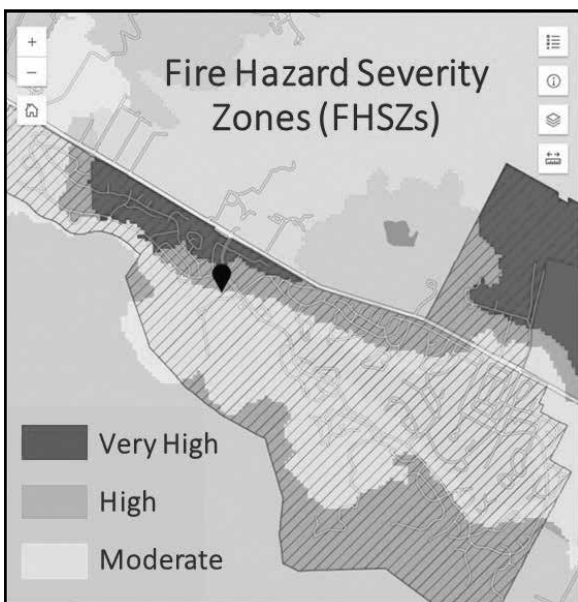
Café Mortel will present a 6-part workshop called End-of-Life Planning with Heart beginning January. You may have a trust or will, but there is so much more to put in place in case of incapacity and for death so that others may honor your wishes.

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

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

Fire Hazard Severity Zones in Oakmont Village

■Roger Biery, Firewise Task Force



This is Part 2 about wildfire zones in Oakmont Village covering Fire Hazard Severity Zones (FHSZs). These zones were determined for all of Sonoma County by the State Fire Marshal in February, and adopted by the City of Santa Rosa in March.

As with Wildland-Urban Interfaces (WUIs) covered in Part 1, FHSZ designations determine applicable defensible space and other requirements for homeowners. Unlike with a WUI, which has a single designation, there are three levels for FHSZs: Moderate, High and Very High (see map). Note that

areas with a relatively low vulnerability to wildfires do not receive FHSZ designations.

Homes in a Very High FHSZ must comply with stringent defensible space requirements, and once formally adopted by the City of Santa Rosa, new construction and certain renovations in High and Very High FHSZs will need to adhere to WUI Fire Area building code standards. Properties offered for sale in High and Very High FHSZ are now also required to pass a defensible space inspection by the Santa Rosa Fire Department, known as an Assembly Bill 38 (AB 38) inspection.

More information about FHSZs is available at www.srcity.org/CivicAlerts.aspx?AID=2910, where there is a link to CAL FIRE's Fire Hazard Severity Map Website with an address look-up feature enabling you to find the designation for your property.

The state of California is working on updating the regulations for defensible space, especially in Zone Zero (0-5 feet) and these are expected to take effect for new construction in 2026 in the State Responsibility Area. The City of Santa Rosa has some discretion regarding how and when these, and potentially other, regulations will apply in its Local Responsibility Area.

The Oakmont Village Firewise Resource Task Force is closely monitoring these ongoing efforts and will provide updates in the *Oakmont News* as important decisions are made. In the meantime, you can request a free educational Firewise Assessment to help reduce the risk of losing your home in a wildfire at oakmontvillage.com/article/firewise-assessment-request.



Oakmont Village Association

OAKMONT VILLAGE ASSOCIATION

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

MAINTENANCE OFFICE

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

CONDOMINIUM FINANCIAL MANAGEMENT (CFM)

OVA Accounting
 Tel 800-585-4297

OAKMONT NEWS

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

PAS MANAGEMENT COMPANY

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

ARCHITECTURAL OFFICE

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

AVAILABLE IN OVA OFFICE

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

BULLETIN BOARDS

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

LOCKER RENTALS

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

GUEST PASSES

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

STREET CLEANING

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

NEED A RIDE? GIVE A RIDE! OAKMONT VOLUNTEER HELPERS

We provide the following services to Oakmont Residents:

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

COORDINATOR Rides to Medical Appointments

December 16–31
 Matt Zwerling 707-539-8996
January 1–15
 Barb Lowell 707-538-0333

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

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

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR WRITER GUIDELINES

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

POOLS & JACUZZIS

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

STORAGE UNITS AND PARKING

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

LIBRARY

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

OAKMONT COMMUNITY GARDEN ON STONEBRIDGE

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

HAPPY TAILS DOG PARK

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

FITNESS CENTER

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

2025–2026 OVA BOARD OF DIRECTORS

E-mail: askova@oakmontvillage.com

- Matt Oliver, President**
matt.oliver@oakmontvillage.com
- Jerry Gladstone, Vice President**
jerry.gladstone@oakmontvillage.com
- Jess Marzak, Secretary**
jmarzak@oakmontvillage.com
- Heidi Klyn, Director**
heidi.klyn@oakmontvillage.com
- Jeff Neuman, Director**
jeff.neuman@oakmontvillage.com
- Neill Ray, Director**
neill.ray@oakmontvillage.com
- Robert Williams, Director**
robert.williams@oakmontvillage.com
- Tom Kendrick, Treasurer**
 (Non-voting officer)
tom.kendrick@oakmontvillage.com

GENERAL MANAGER
Christel Antone
christel@oakmontvillage.com

OVA BOARD MEETINGS

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

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

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

HOW TO CONTACT YOUR LOCAL OFFICIALS

**County Supervisor Rebecca 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.

CLASSIFIEDS

BODEN PLUMBING, HEATING AND AIR

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

BABE'S TRANSPORT

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

ELECTRICAL CONTRACTOR

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

YOUR PERSONAL CAREGIVER AND ADVOCATE

Available 24/7 or hourly, nights, long-term or short-term. 20+ yrs. experience providing honest, reliable, dedicated, competent, compassionate care, with a sense of humor. Native CA, clear background check with fingerprinting. Specialize in Dementia. Starla, (925) 698-6312. References and website. Not an agency.

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.

TREE TRIMMING

Pruning, trimming, hedges, mowing. Fruit trees, stump grinding. Pressure washing. Over 20 yrs. of experience. Free estimates. Now accept credit cards. Visit website: ajyardservice.com. Call Alex, (707) 322-1646. Lic. #06530716.

MARTHA L PROFESSIONAL HOUSE CLEANING

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

CARPET, UPHOLSTERY AND TILE CLEANING

Gavin Anderson, local Sonoma resident. 20+ years experience. Senior pricing. Free estimates. Call 935-6334.

CHRISTO TRANSPORTATION

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

REPAIRS PILING UP? CALL RAY

No job too big or too small. Heating, water heaters, plumbing, electrical, drywall, patching, painting, appliance repairs, honey do's, etc. Quality and affordable. Ray, (707) 280-2699.

HANDYMAN RESIDENT

Ask for Ricky, a personable "Jack of all Trades" with great attention to detail. I meet your quality goals and prioritize Oakmont residents. Let's discuss the work and its cost. (408) 838-5618.

THE PET PROTECTOR AND COMPASSIONATE CAREGIVER!

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

OAKMONT'S PAINTING SERVICES

29 years in Oakmont. Many Oakmont references. Great work at fair prices. License #1108640. Bonded and Insured. (707) 528-8222 or email OakmontsPainting@gmail.com.

YOUR FRIENDLY HANDYMAN

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

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.

HAVING TROUBLE GETTING YOUR GARBAGE TO THE CURB FOR PICK-UP?

I can come to your home to put your trash receptacle to the curb Wednesday afternoon, and bring it back on Thursday afternoon. Call Dan Lennox, (707) 889-0205.

RELIABLE LANDSCAPING SERVICES

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

FOR ALL YOUR PAINTING NEEDS

Quality affordable work at reasonable rates. Interior painting including rooms, cabinets, railings, decks, fencing. Pressure washing and more. Call Michelle, (707) 378-3600.

SONOMA VALLEY LEGAL SERVICES

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

VALLEY OF THE MOON PLUMBING

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

PET MAN DAN

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

GALUS PAINTING

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

PRECISION TILE

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

AIR CONDITIONING REPAIR

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

TONY'S GARDENING SERVICES

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

THE AWAY GUY

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

GARAGE DOOR SERVICES

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

HOUSE CLEANING SERVICES IN OAKMONT

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

REMODELING AND RENOVATION SPECIALIST

Kitchens, Baths, etc. Detail-oriented. Since 1984. Call Josh Begin Construction, (707) 690-2541. Lic. #461220.

COMPASSIONATE PERSONAL ASSISTANT/COMPANION

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

MARSHALLS PLUMBING

Drain Cleaning, Water Heaters, faucets. 25 years exp. Senior Discounts. (707) 681-1011. CA License #541596.

BEST DOG WALKER IN OAKMONT

Excellent references. 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 you and your dog.

HANDYMAN/CONTRACTOR

Call FM Works with all your home improvement needs. Specializing in bathrooms remodels, dump runs, home repairs, painting, windows and doors. Call Freddie at (707) 732-0102.

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.

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.

GUTTER CLEANING

Gutter Guard installation, window cleaning. Careful, professional, reliable. Free estimates. Call Alex, (707) 291-0429.

LIVING WITH A CHRONIC CONDITION?

Sciatica, IBS, Fatigue, Fibromyalgia, Arthritis. Conditions that flare, recede, and return. Jin Shin Jyutsu® is a gentle self-help art that supports the body's own capacity for harmony. Contact Dawna Leigh about upcoming self-help classes or schedule a 1-hour introductory session in a comfortable home studio with simple instruction to support self-care between visits. (415) 755-7008.

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.

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Jazz Club Concerts

■Michael James

JAZZ CLUB'S VALENTINE'S CONCERT

This concert will feature many of the same incredible artists from our last show. Jamie Davis has arranged another special performance for us, bringing together a group of top musicians. Not only will Jamie be singing, he has also been busy recording, and we are hoping his new album will be ready by Valentine's Day, which would be a wonderful gift.

Pianist Jim Martinez is one of the finest in the country and was formerly a pianist for the Steinway Piano Company. We will also welcome world-famous drummer Sylvia Cuenca, who has played in more countries than we have room to list, including the Orient and Africa. For years, Chris Amburger was an iconic bass player in San Francisco, admired by

jazz musicians throughout the Bay Area, and it is a privilege to hear him again.

Michael O'Neil has worked on many television performances and stage productions and works internationally as a "go-to" musician for his deep knowledge of the saxophone. You have likely heard much of his work without realizing the genius behind it.

Every one of these artists has played and recorded with many of the great musicians of our time, and we are extremely fortunate to have them on our stage in Oakmont.

LOCATION: Berger Auditorium

DATE: Saturday, February 14

TIME: 7 p.m. (doors open at 6:30 p.m.)



Jamie Davis.



Jim Martinez.

TICKETS: \$45, available in the OVA office

Tables for eight may be reserved. Drinks and treats are permitted.

Please make checks payable to the Oakmont Jazz Club and place them in the Jazz Club folder.

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