

# DOMINICAN OAKS

## COMMUNITY NEWSLETTER

MARCH 2024

### A MESSAGE FROM OUR ADMINISTRATOR

As we say goodbye to winter's cold and eagerly anticipate the arrival of spring blossoms, March has arrived at Dominican Oaks, bringing with it a sense of renewal and some much-needed sunshine.

This month, get ready to wear your green attire and join us for a festive St. Patrick's Day celebration! From traditional Irish music to delicious cultural cuisine, we will be turning our community into a lively sea of green.

In addition, Easter Sunday will fall on the last Sunday of the month, and we will be hosting an Easter Buffet on that day. Be sure to invite your family and friends and sign up early - this is an event you won't want to miss.

Embracing the joys of March, we look forward to creating lasting memories together. Thank you for being a cherished part of the Dominican Oaks family. Here's to a month filled with laughter, friendship, and the beauty of spring!



*Amy Saulnier*

### DOMINICAN OAKS IS THE SENTINELS BEST!

Dominican Oaks has won the Santa Cruz Sentinel's Best Senior Residential Community!

We are proud to hold the title for over a decade and thank everyone who voted in the contest. We hope your experience at the community reflects this title.



### EASTER BUFFET

Chef Matt and the culinary team will have a special Easter buffet on Sunday, March 31st. Keep an eye out on the Activities Desk for the menu and reservation information.

### ST. PATTY'S DAY

The culinary team takes you to the Emerald Isle on March 17th with classic Irish cuisine served in the Dining Room.

### DINING RESERVATIONS

Dominican Oaks welcomes guests to all meals. We'd like to take a moment to remind residents and family members to make reservations 24 hours in advance and call to check availability.

### RESIDENT MIXER Disco Fever is Back!

Dust your dancing shoes off because the Disco mixer has been rescheduled for the March 27th from 3 to 4:30 PM in the Oaks Room. Bring a friend and boogie the evening away!

**DEPARTMENT  
MANAGERS**  
831.462.6257

Administrator:  
Amy Saulnier

Activities:  
Annette Rau

Administrative Services:  
Brenda Barber

Assisted Living:  
Stacy Smith-Paynter

Dining Services:  
Gerardo Piduca

Facilities & Housekeeping:  
Eric Botkin

Food Service:  
Chef Matt Mettalia

Marketing & Community  
Relations:  
Cheir Harty

## Dominican Oaks March Concerts

### JOE FERRARA

*Wednesday, March 13th at 2 pm in the Oaks Room*

Community favorite Joe Ferrara joins us for a performance of folk, rock, standards and showtunes.

### BARRY LEVINE

*Tuesday, March 26th at 2 PM in the Oaks Room*

Barry Levine is a highly accomplished pianist known for his exceptional talent and captivating performances. Barry's expressive playing style and deep understanding of the music he performs have earned him a dedicated following of fans who appreciate his artistry and passion for the piano.

### JADE

*Tuesday, March 12th at 2 PM in the Oaks Room*

They're back! Dominican Oaks favorite duo returns with lively fun folk favorites.

## SANTA CRUZ CHOWDER COOK OFF

Dominican Oaks Culinary Team took home the 3rd place award for their Manhattan Style Chowder! Over 20 teams competed in the professional competition last Sunday.

It was a gorgeous day on the Santa Cruz Beach Boardwalk and the event had one of its highest attendances yet! We thank all of you who joined us and look forward to taking home more accolades next year!



## Commercial Premiere!

Join us Tuesday, March 5th at 3:30pm in the Oaks Room for the premiere of our new commercials showcasing our vibrant community and incredible residents! Be among the first to see these 30-second spots that highlight the beauty and spirit of life at Dominican Oaks. We will be serving popcorn and sweet treats as we see our community come alive on the screen.

Don't miss this special event celebrating what makes Dominican Oaks such a wonderful place to call home!

A big thank you to all who participated in the filming.



## Table Tennis has a New Day



Exciting news from the Table Tennis club! We have added a new day to our calendar. In addition to our regular Saturdays at 11 am, you can now watch or play on Thursdays at 1 pm. Table tennis is open to everyone on the Thomas Patio, just off the lobby. All experience levels are welcome!

We encourage all residents to join us. Playing table tennis not only improves hand-eye coordination but also stimulates your brain, enhances balance, and provides a fun way to work up a sweat while getting to know your neighbors!

**Sat at 11am & Thurs at 1 pm  
On The Thomas Patio**

Join us on a bus outing and ...

# March into Fun!

## Seascape Resort Walk 10am Thursday March 7th

Join us as we travel the stunningly beautiful Seascape Resort in Aptos. We will get to see the stunning south county coast line and gorgeous resort grounds.

## EXPLORE THE CANEPA MOTORSPORTS MUSEUM!

10:00 am Thursday, March 21th

We are thrilled to add another visit to the Canepa Motorsports Museum in Scotts Valley to the calendar. The Canepa Motorsport Museum is dedicated to the spirit of automobile and motorcycle competition, and the celebration of engineering excellence. On display are a broad spectrum of racecars and motorcycles from the golden age of motorsport to modern times. The museum showcases examples from multiple disciplines with everything from Can-Am to NASCAR, Indy to Le Mans.

## ELLA's AT THE AIRPORT

8:30 am Thursday, March 14th

Enjoy brunch at the charming restaurant right next to the tarmac of the Watsonville airport. Enjoy seeing private aircrafts take off and land while enjoying american classics with an italian twist!

## BOOKSHOP SANTA CRUZ SHOPPING TRIP

1:30 pm Thursday March 14th

Bookshop Santa Cruz is a beloved staple of the community. Come with us as we shop for both new releases, classics and local trinkets!

## INSIGHT RETREAT CENTER

1:30 pm Thursday, March 28th

The Insight Retreat Center offers silent meditation retreats and is located just outside Santa Cruz. Their retreats are focused on insight meditation and the liberation teachings of the Buddha and are offered as gifts to all at no cost.

## MARCH BIRTHDAYS

1 Susan Maas

2 Jim Burgard

5 Florence Giacinto

8 Dixie Rees

11 Terry Meehan

12 Bob Nelson

14 Barbara Gilbeau

14 Mike Ensign

15 Mary Coneway

18 Don Hansen

20 Sylvia Beccaria

20 Glen Beckstrom

27 Gordon Decker

29 Susan Taigman

## FRAGRANCE REMINDER

We would like to gently remind everyone to consider their choice and amount of perfume or cologne when in communal spaces, particularly in the dining room. Some of our residents have sensitivities and allergies to strong scents, and it is important to respect their needs. Please be mindful of others and consider wearing a lighter amount of fragrance or opting for fragrance-free products while in shared areas. Your consideration and understanding in this matter will help create a more comfortable and inclusive environment for all.



## COMMUNITY GUIDELINES REMINDER

To maintain community cleanliness and reduce tripping hazards in the hallways, we kindly request that you refrain from placing trash outside your apartment until AFTER 5 pm. Trash collection by our maintenance team will commence daily at 7 pm.

# MEET YOUR NEW NEIGHBORS

## VIVIENNE ANDRES

Several highlights come to mind: traveling around Europe & Turkey with two friends for six months after my college graduation, in our little VW Beetle. After teaching for three years, I took a leave of absence and went to London to study art history at the Courtauld Institute, part of London University. The director was a very famous art historian who was also keeper of the Queen's pictures. Later on he was found to have been involved with Russian spies during WWII. Living in England was a wonderful experience.

I have never heard a negative comment about Dominican Oaks. Now that I am older and retired from teaching and painting, I am looking forward to my new home and meeting lots of interesting people.

## SHARON BARRETT

I was born in Sacramento and earned my Bachelor's degree from San Jose State, majoring in Physical Education. After raising my two sons, I went back to school at Cal Poly, SLO, to earn a Master's degree, specializing in Adult Exercise Physiology. Santa Cruz was my next home, offering a part-time job at Cabrillo College teaching tennis, aerobics and weight training. Ultimately, I developed and taught my own fitness program, starting with Dominican PEP and then into a private business.

My hobbies and interests include line dancing, walking, golfing and playing the piano and ukulele. I am also an avid reader, especially mystery novels.

**If you are part of the new resident buddy system or have a new resident neighbor or floormate, we encourage you to invite them to an activity or meal with you. It can be intimidating to move into an established community and having multiple contacts to attend a variety of activities with can really help someone comfortably assimilate into their new setting. Who knows, maybe your new best friend is moving in next door!**