

DOMINICAN OAKS

COMMUNITY NEWSLETTER

JANUARY 2025

A MESSAGE FROM OUR ADMINISTRATOR

Happy New Year, everyone!

It's truly incredible how quickly another year has come and gone. As we say goodbye to 2024, I hope you take a moment to reflect on the wonderful memories, milestones, and moments that made this past year at the Oaks so special. It's been a year of growth, change, and progress, and I couldn't be more grateful for this vibrant community we share.

Now, as we step into the new year, I can hardly contain my excitement for what's ahead!

More than anything, I look forward to deepening the connections we've built, welcoming new faces, and fostering the warm, welcoming environment that makes Dominican Oaks such a special place to call home.

Here's to a year of growth, joy, and endless possibilities. Let's make this new chapter one to remember!

With gratitude and excitement,

Amy Saulnier

BE OUR GUEST

We are excited to welcome guests to our dining room for breakfast, lunch, and dinner! To reserve your spot, simply call the front desk. We kindly request that you make your reservations at least 24 hours in advance to ensure availability.

- Breakfast: \$10 per guest
- Lunch: \$15 per guest
- Dinner: \$20 per guest

We can't wait to share these delicious moments with you!

JOIN US FOR THE PUPPY PARADE!



Attention all Dominican Oaks furry friends and their humans:

(Stella, Buddy, Bear, Eddie, Shafer, Dolly, Patty, Cooper, Honey, Shelly, and the rest of our beloved canine crew—this means you!)

Let your human companions know it's time to bring you to:





The Oaks Room

Tuesday, Jan 14 • 1:30 PM

for our grand Puppy Parade!

Whether you're a sprightly pup or simply young at heart, **all are welcome to join in the fun**—puppy-like enthusiasm highly encouraged!

Here's what's in store:

-  *Tasty treats*
-  *An exciting obstacle course*
-  *Show off your tricks*
-  *Heartwarming stories about you*

We can't wait to see you - wagging tails and all!



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 & Michelle

Lackey



NEW BUS SHOPPING TRIPS IN JANUARY!

In addition to our regular bus trips to Whole Foods, CVS, Safeway, Trader Joe's, Michael's, Nob Hill, and Dollar Tree, please look for these exciting new shopping locations in January:

- **1/2 at 2pm:** The Farm Bakery & Gifts
- **1/3 at 10am:** New Leaf & Palace Arts
- **1/9 at 2pm:** Corralitos Meat Market
- **1/10 at 10am:** The Farm Bakery & Gifts
- **1/14 at 10am:** Target at the Capitola Mall
- **1/14 at 2pm:** Kohl's at the Capitola Mall
- **1/23 at 10am:** Corralitos Meat Market
- **1/28 at 10am:** Marshalls



Other notable, longer bus shopping trips include:

- **1/9 at 10am:** Bookshop Santa Cruz
- **1/16 at 10:30am:** Chico's in Los Gatos (women's clothing) & lunch afterwards at the Wine Cellar restaurant
- **1/23 at 2pm:** Bookshop Santa Cruz
- **1/30 at 10:30am:** Seascape Village Shops & lunch afterwards at Dos Pescados

As always, please sign up for bus trips at the Activity Desk in the Lobby

Please be in the lobby at least 5-10 minutes before departure.

Questions? Please see Annette Rau, Activity Manager, in the Activity office (across from the Oaks Room).



[Bus Driver Erik on a shopping trip with residents]



[A glimpse of the new bus design]

THE GIVING TABLE RETURNS

All day in the Acorn Room - January 1, 2 & 3



What is the Giving Table?

The Giving Table is a resident generated donation system where residents donate belongings they no longer need so that other residents might find something they have been in need of.

The new year might be a time for a fresh start. If you have things you no longer need, consider donating them for others to use. **However, please leave out shoes and clothing from your donations.**

On the flip side, keep an eye out for items that you might be interested in. Whether it's a game you've been wanting to try or a lamp you've been needing, this is your chance to find it. It's all about creating a cycle of sharing that helps our community thrive!

Grief Support Group

Every Thursday Morning

10AM Garden Level Activity Room

11AM Chapel

Facilitated by Certified Grief Counseling Specialist Constance Blake, this new group, limited to 12 attendees, will allow you to safely explore thoughts and feelings about grief, of all types, past or present.

Allowing for the expression of your grief may create space for joy and purposeful living.

All are most welcome in this confidential space.

Manager's Forum

1pm on Wednesday, Jan 15
Oaks Room

Join us to catch up on the latest happenings in our community, ask questions, and share your suggestions. This open forum provides residents with an opportunity to hear directly from the management team, while also allowing managers to understand what matters most to the residents. The meeting will be followed by a 2pm performance from the charming **Karin Phoenix!**

Karin has played as part of the USO touring Japan, Australia, Korea and many other countries for the US Military. Since the 1980's Karin has been a hometown favorite in Santa Cruz County, performing alongside famous bands such as the Doobie Brothers and Tim McGraw.

JANUARY BIRTHDAYS

- 2 Sharon Bush
- 2 Gilda Zelin
- 12 Fred Feliz
- 12 Iris Miller
- 11 Mary Carson
- 14 Marilyn Aversa
- 18 Carol Bockman
- 21 Lee Brown
- 22 Mary Boer*
*Turning 102!
- 23 Susan Cony
- 23 Judy Richards
- 24 Joanie Dellos-Taylor
- 26 Brenda Ainscow
- 27 Mary Margaret Hogan*
*Turning 100!

UPCOMING EXCITING ACTIVITIES YOU WON'T WANT TO MISS!

JOE FERRARA PERFORMS!

WEDNESDAY, JAN 8
2PM IN THE OAKS
ROOM



Come see what all the fuss is about... there is a reason the residents keep talking about him! Blessed with a rich baritone and the ability to recall almost any song you can think of, Joe Ferrara continues to be a crowd favorite, and returns for his monthly performance.

Enjoy the show!



DOWN MEMORY LANE

WEDNESDAY, JAN 22
2PM IN THE OAKS
ROOM

Please join us for a very special event!

Enjoy listening to residents read their published memories from:

"Down Memory Lane"

Sharing memories brings us together!

SANTA CRUZ COUNTY

RISING STARS

SATURDAY, JAN 11
1:30PM OAKS ROOM

MUSICAL KIDS PERFORM!



Rising Stars are young musicians who have won awards in local competitions. They can range in age from 6-18 and play piano, flute or string instruments. They all study with the local Santa Cruz Music teachers association members.

GROUP BALL SPORTS WITH A PHYSICAL THERAPIST

EVERY TUESDAY IN
JANUARY
2:30PM GL ACTIVITY
ROOM
3:30PM OAKS ROOM



Attendees agree: Ball Sports is too much fun! Looking for a new, fun, and safe way to stay active?

Come join Dr. Jason Shepardson and other residents in adapted sports activities designed to be safe, pain-free and fun!