



# DOMINICAN OAKS

## COMMUNITY NEWSLETTER

JULY 2026



### A MESSAGE FROM OUR ADMINISTRATOR

Dear Resident, Families, and Friends,

As we step into the vibrant month of July, the spirit of summer is truly here at Dominican Oaks. We're eagerly anticipating one of our most beloved annual traditions: The Annual Family BBQ on Saturday, July 11th. It's a fantastic opportunity to enjoy delicious food, a fun theme, great company and celebrate together. Please remember, July 1st is the last day to sign up to ensure we have an accurate headcount for our kitchen. Don't miss out on what is bound to be a day of food and fun - sign up at the front desk today!

We look forward to sharing a delightful and memorable July with you all!

*Amy Saulnier*

### FOURTH OF JULY CELEBRATION IN GARDEN!

Come mingle with old friends and new in our lovely Garden Courtyard on Saturday afternoon, **July 4th at 2pm** where we will enjoy tasty treats, champagne & sparkling cider to celebrate our nation's birthday!

Special Guest **Joe Ferrara** performs!

### EXCITING NEW RESIDENT REQUESTED BUS TRIPS IN JULY

It is a month of many museums and much more! Please check your calendar for dates & times.

- Allied Arts Center in Menlo Park
- Filoli Gardens in Woodside
- Anderson Museum at Stanford University
- Santa Cruz Wharf
- Succulent Gardens
- Capitola Library
- Caroline's Thrift Shop in Aptos
- Canepa Car Museum in Scotts Valley
- Museum of Arts & History downtown Santa Cruz
- Bookshop Santa Cruz
- Alladin's Nursery
- Costco
- Gayle's Bakery
- And many shopping trips and scenic drives!

As always, please sign up at the Activity Desk in the lobby. Even if the wait list is full, if you are interested in joining a trip, please show up in the lobby. Very often we are able to fit those who want to join at last minute as seats become available.



# DOMINICAN OAKS MANAGERS

**Administrator:**  
Amy Saulnier

**Activities &  
Transportation:**  
Annette Rau

**Assisted Living:**  
Stacy Smith-Paynter

**Dining Services:**  
Gerardo Piduca

**Facilities (Maintenance) &  
Housekeeping:**  
Eric Botkin

**Food Service:**  
Matt Mettalia

**Associate Administrator/  
Business Office Manager:**  
Cheir Harty



ABOVE LEFT,  
RESIDENTS  
BEING  
SERENADED BY  
PERFORMER  
ELLEN AT A  
PREVIOUS 4<sup>TH</sup>  
OF JULY  
CELEBRATION.

BELOW LEFT,  
RESIDENTS  
ENJOYING  
SAN JOSE'S  
FASCINATING  
ROSICRUCIAN  
MUSEUM.

## JULY BIRTHDAYS!

02 Marilyn McBrien	11 Juliette Schaefer
02 Bobbie Spivey	13 Sandy Silver
02 Barbara Wiles	15 Sue Foster
04 Arlene Shatsky	17 Dotty Lieber
<b>06 Betty Ann Altman</b>	20 Lois Widom
<b>turns 103!</b>	21 Donna Manning
08 Ruth Lipson	22 Lou McTamanev
09 Walter Hickey	28 Sally Francy
10 Jeanne Trebbien	30 Terry Burke





**ABOVE, IMPROMPTU PIZZA PARTY DURING OUR ABBOTT SQUARE BUS OUTING! BELOW, HAPPY RESIDENTS AT LAST MONTH'S HANDS ON LAVENDER WELLNESS WORKSHOP!**



## NOTEWORTHY MUSIC IN JULY!

This month will see the return of our baritone treasure, **Joe Ferrara**, for our 4<sup>th</sup> of July Celebration, plus his usual show on Wed, July 8.

*“Camp Dominican Oaks”* - our annual Summer Family BBQ, taking place from 11AM-2PM on Saturday, July 11 in the Garden Courtyard, will feature the American Folk music of **Kelly “Junebug” Bayer**, and local legend on the steel slide guitar, **Patti Maxine!**

In addition to these performances, this month’s musical offerings also include:

- **Ellen & Glenn’s Sing Along - 7/3 & 7/17**
- **Justin’s Soothing Music - 7/12**
- **Justin & Lola Perform together! - 7/15**
- **Kip Allert - 7/18**
- **The Two of Us Trumpet - 7/20**
- **The Retro Band - 7/22**

And as a special treat, our very own resident, singer **Virginia Lieb**, returns to entertain us on 7/31!

Please be sure to check your calendars for times and locations, and note that the Sing Alongs will move to the Garden Courtyard for the summer months. Enjoy the shows!

## MORE WORKSHOPS IN JULY!

**Gorgeous Card Making Class** led by two local artists who will guide us in a simple method. All materials will be supplied. **July 6 at 1:30pm in the Oaks Room**

Resident **Bobbie Spivey** returns to lead her **Native American Dreamcatcher Workshop** on **July 22 from 2-3:30PM in the Oaks Room**. All supplies provided.

## MEET YOUR NEW NEIGHBORS!

**Carolyn Nathan** is a life-long native resident of California. She was born in Oakland, she grew up in the East Bay hills through High School, then attended UC Davis while earning a Bachelor's Degree in Dietetics/Nutrition. She worked for various counties in Sacramento, the Bay Area and Northern/Central California as a Public Health Nutritionist and Registered Dietitian, focusing on Diabetes Education and Lactation practices for pregnant Women, Infants, and Children for the WIC program and regional hospitals. She and her former husband raised 2 children who were born in Ukiah, CA, while continuing to follow jobs to advance her education and improve her skills in the Nutrition field. Upon retirement she moved to Santa Cruz to be closer to her children & grandchildren. After an 8.5 year break to live in Menlo Park and Redwood City, she has now returned to Santa Cruz to live at Dominican Oaks, again to be closer to her children and grandchildren. Her hobbies are volunteering, walking, hiking, yoga, Tai Chi, bicycling, aerobic exercise, strength training, Mah Jong, Board games, gardening and many more fun activities with family and friends. Making new friends is one of the first items on her TO DO list.

**Ernie Kinzli** was born in Santa Cruz in December of 1934. He attended Live Oak Schools, then moved to Washington Township for about 10 years where he went to Warm Springs Elementary and Washington Union High School before attending UC Davis for 3 years. Ernie and his wife Diane were married in 1961 in the old Twin Lakes Baptist Church on 7th Ave. Ernie moved back to Santa Cruz and worked at the United Cigar Store for about 18 years before starting "Ernie's Casting Pond" in Santa Cruz. All kinds of fishing tackle specializing in fly fishing, rod building and river conservation. After 31 years Ernie and Diane closed their shop in Soquel. Ernie's hobbies include Fly Tying and Fishing, hunting Elk, Deer, Antelope, Bear and Buffalo. Ernie also has an established rose garden and fruit trees featuring, apple, lemon, orange, avocado, apricots, cherry and peach. Ernie has 2 children Jeff and Pam.

**Syd Dunton** was born and raised in California. Art has always been a large part of his life. While attending San Jose State University, he specialized in three-dimensional design. Syd did his graduate work in jewelry. After graduation he taught ceramics at Foothill College. While there, he was fortunate to study clay in Japan. Syd became a sculptor working in wood and spent many years designing and making custom wine cellars for private residences and restaurants. Syd's hobbies include appreciating and collecting ethnic art.

## ORPHAN PRIMATES PRESENTATION



On Monday, July 27 at 1:30pm in the Oaks Room, resident **Margo Chisholm** will share her experiences in Cameroon taking care of, and raising funds for the ongoing care of Chimpanzees and Gorillas orphaned by the bush meat trade. This experience took place at the Orphan Primate Sanctuary run by Ape Action Africa.

**Newsletter Editor Annette Rau  
welcomes your input!  
[annette.rau@commonspirit.org](mailto:annette.rau@commonspirit.org)**