



# OAKMONT News

## *Livonia*

January 2026

Your home. Your happiness. Our privilege.

### Oakmont Livonia Staff

Michele White  
Executive Director

Gena McCullough  
Leasing Consultant

Jodi Reed  
Activity Director

Robey Nesmith  
Lead Receptionist

Lynn Carmona  
Chef

Betty Crawley  
Dining Room Supervisor

Trevor Abraham  
Maintenance Supervisor

Charlotta Willis  
Housekeeping Supervisor

Davarus Halmon  
Transportation  
14265 Middlebelt Rd  
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#### **December Activities Highlights**

December was a joyful and festive month at Oakmont Senior Living. Mid-month, not only did we deck the halls, but we celebrated Spirit Week, with residents and staff dressing up for fun themed days that brought plenty of smiles. We also welcomed Girl Scout Troop 8501 for a cheerful morning of baking cookies together. They also passed out handmade cards to someone of the residents.

Therapy dogs Digger and Fetch visited and brightened everyone's night. Our Resident and Family Christmas Party was a heartwarming highlight, bringing loved ones together for the season. The Oakmont Handbell Choir added some beautiful music.

We ended the month with a festive New Year's Eve celebration, the perfect way to close out a month filled with connection, laughter, and community spirit. I don't know about you, but I'm exhausted!

## A Message From the Activity Corner

Happy New Year, everyone! I'm excited to kick off 2026 with a full and engaging month of activities designed to bring our community together, spark conversation, and keep the winter months warm and enjoyable.

Thank you to everyone who donated, cans, change, cash, and baby items for the Wee Care Program in Livonia. Because of your generosity, we collected over \$300 in money and cans, along with a wonderful assortment of baby outfits, diapers, and other much-needed items. Your kindness will make a real difference for families in need.

We'll continue Coffee & Conversation with Michele, our Executive Director, on the first and third Wednesday of the month at 10:00 a.m. This is a wonderful chance to share ideas, ask questions, and enjoy friendly dialogue. Come and get to know Michele!

Entertainment this month includes a special repeat performance by Simply Sinatra, as well as our January Birthday Party featuring lively entertainment by Chris Ayotte. We look forward to celebrating all our January birthdays together! Remember, you don't have to have a birthday in January to come to the party.

Our driver, Davarus, will have the bus warm and ready to take us on some bus trips to Kroger, The Dollar Store, Town Peddler, and the Hudson Cafe scheduled throughout the month. Be sure to sign up at the front desk.

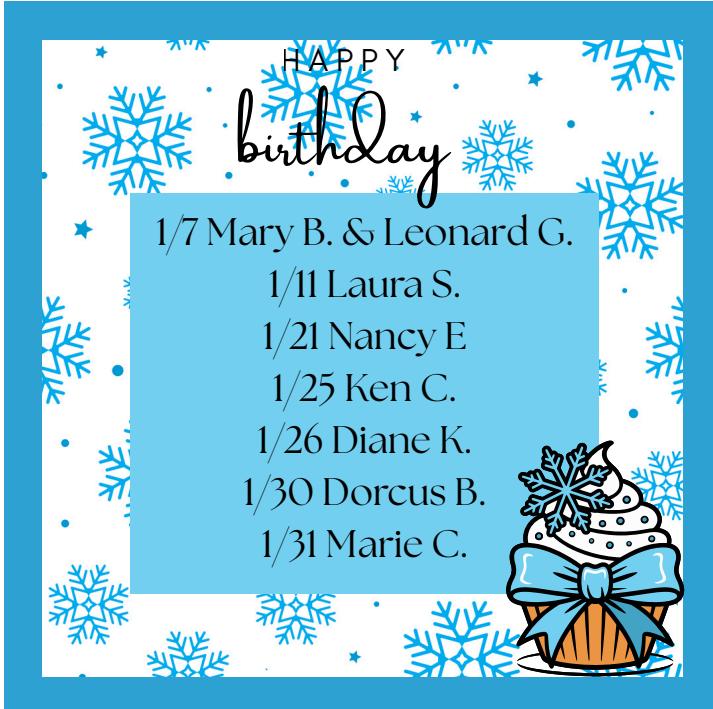
For our gentlemen, we have the Men's Group Lunch on January 9th at noon, and for the ladies, a Lovely Ladies' Lunch on January 16th at noon—two great opportunities for good food and even better company. Seats fill up fast in the activity room, so be sure to sign up at the front desk so we can have enough food.

This month, I'm also excited to introduce a new program: a Non-Book Book Club—a relaxed discussion group where we explore themes, stories, and ideas without the pressure of required reading. You read whatever book you want at your own pace. Then you share what you're reading with the group.

As winter settles in, we'll be offering a Winter Warm-Up with hot chocolate, tea, or coffee paired with some conversation with Jodi. This will be sure to bring warmth to even the chilliest days.

A special thank you to all the residents and staff who submitted pictures of their beloved pets for the Oakmont 2026 Pet Calendar. The calendars are now available for purchase for \$15.00 each, with all proceeds supporting the Michigan Humane Society. We appreciate your participation in making this project both meaningful and adorable! Deadline to purchase a calendar is Dec. 30th. However, if you have not purchased one yet, You may not receive it until later in January.

Looking forward to a wonderful month together! Let's make January a warm, connected, and uplifting start to the year.



## Non-Book Book Club

**Attention All Readers!**



Come and Share Your latest book reads  
You pick what you want to read or listen to,  
then come and share it with the group.  
Read at your own pace!

**Wednesday, Jan. 28<sup>th</sup> at 2:00pm**



**Wednesday, Jan. 21st**

You don't need to have any skill  
They will make you look  
like real artists!  
Be sure to sign up!

**Coffee & Conversation**

**w/ Michele**

**Jan. 7<sup>th</sup> & 21<sup>st</sup>**

**10:00am**

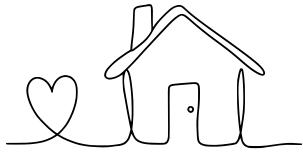
In the  
Activity Room.



# Welcome

to the  
neighborhood

Barbara K.  
Henry M.  
Karen R.  
Barbara R.  
Tyrone D.



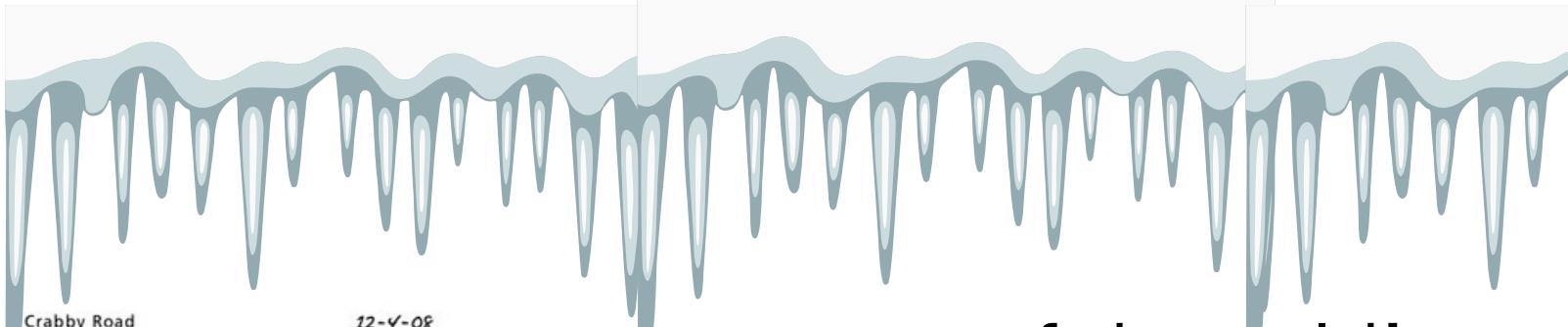
## Lovely Ladies Luncheon

Friday, Jan. 16<sup>th</sup> 12:00  
Sign up at front desk



## Men's Group Luncheon

Friday, Jan. 9<sup>th</sup> 12:00  
Sign up at front desk



Come in out of the cold!

## Winter Warm Up

**Wednesday Jan. 14<sup>th</sup>  
10am**

Join us for hot tea, hot chocolate or hot coffee while  
we sit and engage in conversation.  
We can battle the winter blues together.



## SPOTLIGHT ON A RESIDENT

Five years ago, Marie chose to move to Oakmont because she values connection. After losing several friends in a short period of time and feeling a lack of social support, she knew she needed a community. At Oakmont, she found exactly that. She enjoys participating in activities, attending outings, and working in the store. Many residents know her from the Oakmont Country Store, where she enjoys volunteering her time and having conversations with people.

Marie grew up in Detroit, Michigan where she graduated from Pershing High School. She then earned her teaching certificate from Marygrove College and a masters degree from Eastern Michigan University. Her life was shaped by strong family roots and resilience. She was raised by both her parents. Her father was born in Italy and later worked at the Ford Rouge plant. Her mother was a housewife who went to work during World War II to become a "Rosie the Riveter".

Marie met the love of her life, Vincent, when she 17 years old and they lived across from each other. Their connection quickly grew into a lifelong partnership. He served in the U.S. Army during the Korean War and later worked as a warehouse manager. He passed away 24 years ago after a long journey with Alzheimer's disease, a time Marie faced with courage, dedication, and love.

Together, Marie and Vincent raised four children: Vincent Jr., Nancy Marie, Jeffrey, and Donna Sue. Nancy, sadly passed away at the age of five due to a heart defect. It was their strong relationship and them working together that got them through her death. Despite the hardships she faced, Marie considers raising her children- and seeing them grow into good human beings - her greatest accomplishment.

Marie's first job, long before teaching was at a dime store making fifteen cents an hour - an experience that taught her the value of hard work early on. Marie later dedicated 32 1/2 years of her life to education as a teacher in Livonia Public Schools at both Hoover and Hayes Elementaries. She taught every grade from first to sixth, but fifth was her favorite. She also taught Spanish for two years.

After retiring, Marie used her passion for travel to get a job as a travel agent which allowed her and her husband to travel to Italy and take 12 cruises, traveling to places such as the Caribbean, Mexico, Alaska, Korea, Japan, China, and more.

Marie has learned several life lessons. First, it is important to work together with your partner, especially during challenging times. Second, everybody goes through difficult times, you need to make the best of it. Third, knowledge can help you navigate the unknown and help you. For example, she learned as much as she could about Alzheimer's so she could care for and support her husband.



## SPOTLIGHT ON AN EMPLOYEE

For more than fifteen and a half years, Sandra has been a steady, caring presence at Oakmont Senior Living. Currently serving as one of our talented cooks. Sandra's Oakmont journey began as a server, and through dedication and hard work, she worked her way into the kitchen, where she continues to make a meaningful impact every day.

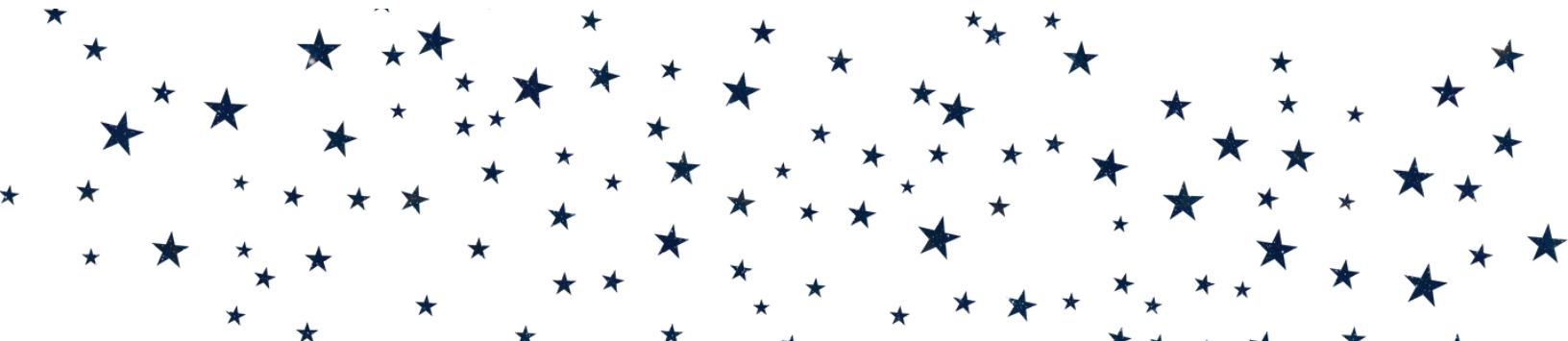
A Livonia native and Churchill High School graduate, Sandra now lives in Garden City. Before joining Oakmont, she worked in the public school system as a paraprofessional, bringing with her a natural sense of patience, compassion, and care, qualities that shine through in her work with our residents.

What Sandra loves most about her job is being around the residents. She truly enjoys listening to their stories and getting to know them as individuals. Whether she's preparing breakfast and lunch, working the lunch and dinner shift, or the occasional double to make all the meals for the day. Sandra takes pride in what she does. Her goal is simple but powerful: to make residents feel important. She does this by checking in with them frequently. She has even been with several residents as they passed.

Sandra met her husband of 33 years, Ken, at Madonna College during their first year at a dance school. Although she originally went to school for nursing, her life had other plans that led her to Oakmont. Together, Sandra and Ken have three children: Robert, Laura, and Michael. Robert is married and has two daughters, making Sandra a proud grandmother.

Even on challenging days, Sandra maintains a positive attitude by staying focused on her work and tuning out the negativity. The most valuable lesson she's learned from working with seniors is the importance of patience, sometimes, patience is exactly what's needed most.

Sandra hopes to continue making a difference at Oakmont by being someone residents can talk to and by spreading positivity wherever she goes. We are grateful for her many years of service, her warm heart, and the care she brings to our community every day.





## Get Out Of Your Apartment and Take a Trip with Us!

During January All Trips Are On Mondays at 11:00

1/5 Kroger

1/12 The Dollar Store

1/19 Town Peddler

1/26 Hudson Cafe



## Let's Go To The Movies!

GRAB YOUR DERBY ATTIRE AND JOIN US FOR OUR

Jan. 2 Facing the Giants

Jan. 4 Twins

Jan. 9 The Miracle Season

Jan. 11 People We Meet On Vacation

Jan. 16 Baby Boom

Jan. 18 Martian

Jan. 23 The Music Man

Jan. 25. The Sting

Jan. 30 Pay It Forward

## Basket Winners From The Mistletoe Market Raffle!

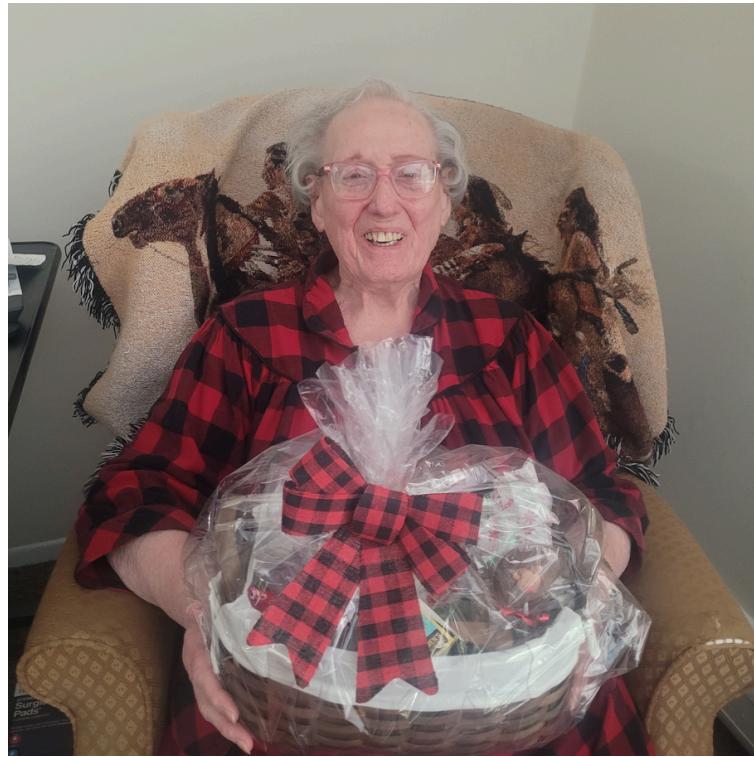


Sue



Delphine

Marion



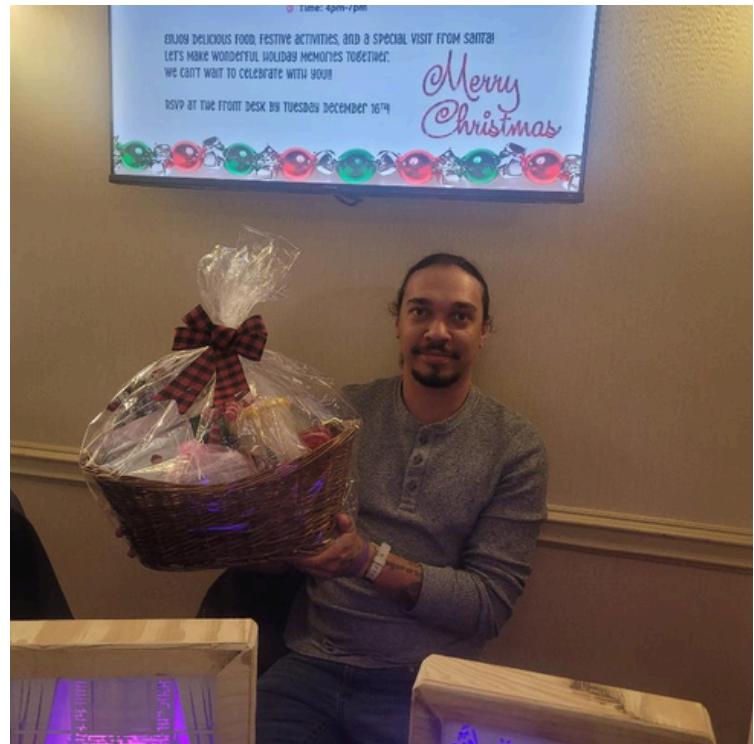
Yvonne



Everybody who bought something from one of the vendors of Mistletoe Market received raffle tickets.  
Congratulations to our winners!



Nancy

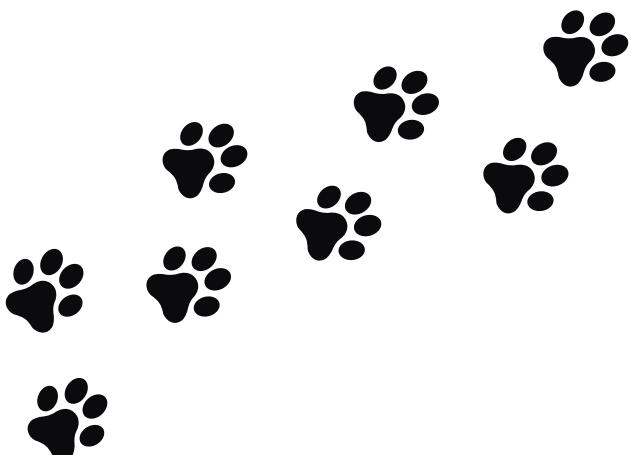


Tony (Sue's grandson)

# Highlights from December



We were delighted to welcome two very special visitors - Fetch and Digger, our wonderful therapy dogs. These gentle, friendly pups brought wagging tails, warm cuddles, and lots of smiles to our residents. Their visit was truly a highlight of the season, spreading comfort, joy, and a little extra holiday cheer to everyone they met.





Last month, residents were treated to a wonderful musical performance by the Livonia Civic Chorus. Their beautiful harmonies and familiar songs filled Oakmont with joy. The visit was a delightful experience that brought smiles and memories.



More pictures from the Girl Scouts' visit.