VILLAGE BREEZE

MARCH/APRIL 2026

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At MemorialCare Saddleback Medical Center, we understand that as life changes, so do your health needs. That's why we're here to provide expert, personalized care and advanced treatments. Whether it's managing a chronic condition, preventative care or a new health challenge, our team is dedicated to helping you live your healthiest life.

The Wellness Bus Route provides free bus access from Laguna Woods Village to Saddleback Medical Center, the Women's Health Pavilion and MemorialCare Medical Group 55+ (Laguna Woods).

Meet the MemorialCare team at the Laguna Woods Village Health & Wellness Expo Saturday, March 28, 10 a.m - 1 p m.

MemorialCare™
Saddleback Medical Center

Learn more.
(657) 241-8475
memorialcare.org/LagunaWoods

VILLAGE **MASTERPIECES**

Whether art imitates life, as Aristotle taught, or life imitates art, as Oscar Wilde concluded, one thing is certain: In Laguna Woods Village, both become masterpieces—shaping and enriching one another in ways that define our community.

This edition celebrates the creativity, service and spirit that bring our Village to life. From gallery walls to gathering halls, from technology transitions to tender new beginnings, the stories in these pages remind us what is possible when neighbors come together.

If Laguna Woods Village has a front porch, it is Clubhouse 1—where conversations spark, clubs convene and community comes alive.

The Laguna Woods Art Association returns with its 2026 exhibition, filling Community Center hallways and alcoves with works that inspire, entertain and awe. Read about the contest, enjoy a sampling throughout the magazine and see the show for yourself.

Like many Village artists, David Bialobroda discovered his gift only after moving here—a testament to the creative awakening that often begins in this community. Read about his contribution to the History Center and see it in person.

The Camera Club of Laguna Woods Village marks a milestone year with an extraordinary 60th-anniversary presentation by renowned wildlife photographer Todd Gustafson—a reminder that even as we cherish our Village, our lenses—and our imaginations—reach far beyond it.

Service, too, is a Village masterpiece. We spotlight the PC Club and Mac Club, whose members are helping residents navigate the Ting fiber and DirecTV transition. Their patient guidance ensures no neighbor is left behind in an ever-changing digital world.

Community also means caring for practical needs. We explore a simple truth: Senior discounts are everywhere—you just have to ask. And we introduce the Springboks Club's new support group, offering a gentle first step back into social connection after profound grief—proof that compassion is one of our Village's greatest works of art.

This edition's featured clubs remind us that the true masterpiece is not just the painting, the photograph or the program—it is the people behind them.

Enjoy the incredible talents of your neighbors in these Village masterpieces.

Susan

Susan Logan-McCracken,
Managing Editor

All nature photos © "Todd Gustafson's To the Ends of the Earth: East Africa"

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COVER PHOTO BY MARK RABINOWITCH

MemorialCare™ Every Village Breeze edition is paid for through a partnership with MemorialCare.

"Before Sunset," Gail Jorden

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VILLAGE BREEZE

The official magazine of Laguna Woods Village

MARCH/APRIL 2026

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Unsolicited manuscripts and content suggestions are welcome for possible future use in the Village Breeze or other VMS publications. Acknowledgement of unsolicited manuscripts is in no way a suggestion or guarantee of publication.

Submit concise editorial ideas as a one-page letter accompanied by recent writing samples to info@lagunawoodsvillage.com or to Village Breeze, 24351 El Toro Road, Laguna Woods, CA 92637. Include your full name, phone number, email address and manor number. To receive a copy of the Laguna Woods Village Style Guide and editorial guidelines, email info@lagunawoodsvillage.com.

Submissions will not be returned.

Village Breeze reserves the right to edit any and all content for clarity, accuracy, space and tone and correct grammar, spelling and usage.

Only Village Breeze staff prepares and assigns editorial content. No contributor or agent may promise content, or content placement within Village Breeze to any individual, group, business, organization or entity.

Getting Where You Need to Go

Navigating Laguna Woods Village is simple and convenient. Whether you're running errands, attending an activity or heading out for an evening event, there's a transportation option designed to meet your needs. From fixed-route buses to after-hours ride services and specialized paratransit for eligible residents, the Village offers several ways to help you remain active and connected.

Below is an overview of available transportation services.

- **Easy Rider:** The Village's fixed-route bus system provides reliable transportation throughout the community and to nearby shopping and medical destinations.
- **Boost powered by Lyft:** Available during hours when fixed-route buses are not operating, Boost provides on-demand rides through the Lyft smartphone app.
- **Journey paratransit service:** Journey offers personalized transportation for approved residents. Those interested must complete an application and professional assessment to determine eligibility.

MEET TRANSPORTATION IN PERSON

Visit the Transportation information booth to learn more about their services:

- **Clubhouse 5:** March 25, 10 a.m. to 1 p.m.
- **Community Center:** April 15, 10 a.m. to noon
- **Clubhouse 4:** May 20, 10 a.m. to 1 p.m.
- **The Towers lobby:** June 17, 10 a.m. to noon
- **Community Center:** August 12, 10 a.m. to noon
- **Clubhouse 1:** November 18, 10 a.m. to noon

For assistance or for more information, call the Transportation Division at **949-597-4659** or visit **lagunawoodsvillage.com/services/transportation-services**.

THE RESIDENT PORTAL IS A SNAP

Many services offered by Resident Services can be done from the convenience of your own home via the Laguna Woods Village resident portal. Visit **portal.lagunawoodsvillage.com** or click the "Resident login" button at the top of the **lagunawoodsvillage.com** home page.

What to Expect

- Enjoy a modern, mobile-friendly design that works on any device.
- Log in securely.
- View multiple properties easily.
- Submit and track maintenance requests with real-time updates.
- View your account balance and make secure online payments.
- Verify vehicle registrations, resident and emergency contact information.
- Customize your communication preferences, including directory opt-outs.
- Use direct links to recreation calendars, board meetings and maintenance schedules.
- Access external booking tools for tee times, guest registration, facility reservations, and Performing Arts Center tickets.

The portal includes a built-in tutorial that walks you through each page and feature step by step. Whether you're comfortable with tech or learning something new, the system is designed to be easy to use for everyone.

WHO SHOULD YOU **CALL FIRST?**

Medical emergency? Accident? Fire? Theft? In a stressful moment, the hardest part is often knowing who to call first, 9-1-1 or Village Security Services. Let's keep it simple.

WHEN TO CALL 9-1-1

If there is immediate danger, call **9-1-1** first. Always. This includes medical emergencies, accidents, crimes in progress, fires, disaster response and any situation where someone is at imminent risk and every minute counts.

When you call 9-1-1, you reach dispatchers at the Orange County Communications Center, who route your call to the fire department, paramedics and/or the Orange County Sheriff's Department as needed. The OC Sheriff's Department has served as the City of Laguna Woods' contracted law enforcement agency since 1999. This matters because the sheriffs and fire departments have training, authority and resources that Village Security does not, including:

- Emergency medical response coordination
- Crime scene investigation
- Missing person searches
- Disaster response

In many situations, Village Security must contact the Sheriff. Calling 9-1-1 first saves valuable time and can help prevent a situation from escalating.

WHEN TO CALL VILLAGE SECURITY

Call Village Security first at **949-580-1400** for non-emergency situations, including:

- Assistance with leaks
- Noise complaints
- Lost property
- Parking concerns
- Gate clearance issues
- Wellness checks, such as when a neighbor has not been seen or heard from in several days and you are concerned

WHEN TO CALL THE SHERIFF'S NON-EMERGENCY DISPATCH

For non-emergency crimes that have already occurred, such as vandalism or theft, residents should contact the Sheriff's Non-Emergency Dispatch at **949-770-6011**.

This message is provided by the Foundation of Laguna Woods Village as part of its emergency preparedness initiative. For more information, visit **foundationoflagunawoodsvillage.org**.

Attend Monthly Town Halls

The Golden Rain Foundation of Laguna Woods (GRF) board of directors launched its first monthly town hall in January and will continue to hold them monthly on the third Wednesday from 1 to 3 p.m., excluding August and November, in the Clubhouse 1 Main Lounge.

Residents are encouraged to attend to share comments and ask questions related to community amenities and shared spaces directly with board members.

Third, United Town Halls

Residents who wish to share comments with their mutual board members are invited to attend the following mutual-specific town halls. Third and United town halls are publicized approximately one week in advance in "What's Up in the Village," including the discussion topic(s) when available.

- **Third Mutual:** Fourth Wednesday of each month from 3 to 4:30 p.m. in the Clubhouse 2 Sequoia Ballroom
- **United Mutual:** Second Friday of each month from 2 to 4 p.m. in the Performing Arts Center/ Clubhouse 3

Disclaimer: *A majority of the board of directors may be present at town hall meetings. Town halls are intended to provide an opportunity for member discussion and questions. No board business will be conducted or actions taken.*

FRUIT TREE AND VEGETABLE POLICY CHANGES

The United and Third boards of directors recently updated the Village community's Fruit Tree and Vegetable Policies (Resolutions 01-25-108 and 03-25-176). Here's a quick overview of what has changed:

Fruit Trees at Resale

- When a home is sold, any existing fruit trees must be removed.
- New homeowners may not keep fruit trees planted by previous owners.
- The mutuals will remove these trees at no cost to residents.

Common Use Areas

- Planting fruit trees or vegetables in common-use areas remains strictly prohibited.

Vegetable Removal

- The updated resolutions reiterate that any vegetables found in these areas must be removed.

Why the Policy Change

Fruit trees and vegetables attract rodents such as rats and mice, and even coyotes, which are drawn to fallen fruit and other food sources. Reducing fruit trees and keeping common areas free of edible plantings helps limit pest activity and supports a cleaner, safer environment for all residents. These policy updates are designed to protect the community's health and safety.

Tips to Deter Rodents and Coyotes

- Keep outdoor areas clean by promptly removing fallen fruit, seeds and food scraps.
- Make sure trash is fully secured inside dumpsters and pick up any debris that falls on the ground.
- Store birdseed, pet food and similar attractants in sealed, rodent-proof containers.
- Never feed wildlife. This is prohibited under Laguna Woods Municipal Code Section 5.20.070.

Thank you for your cooperation in helping keep our community healthy and secure.

Delete Personal Data From Hundreds of Brokers

DROP
Delete Request and Opt-out Platform

CalPrivacy

Californians now have a powerful new way to reduce unwanted emails, texts and scam calls. A new state-run platform allows residents to request the deletion of their personal data from more than 500 registered data brokers with a single, free submission.

The new tool, known as the Delete Requests and Opt-Out Platform, or DROP, is the first of its kind in the nation and is designed to give consumers more direct control over how their personal information is collected, sold and shared.

HOW DROP WORKS

DROP puts into action the Delete Act, a law passed by the California Legislature in 2023. Through the platform, residents can submit one request that is sent to every registered data broker operating in the state.

With a DROP request, consumers can ask data brokers to delete personal information they hold and limit the sale of that information going forward. The platform is free and accessible online.

A FIRST-IN-THE-NATION APPROACH

California is the first government anywhere in the world to offer a centralized data deletion request system of this scale. It is also one of only four states, along with Oregon, Texas and Vermont, that require data brokers to register with the state.

WHAT DATA BROKERS MUST DO

Under the Delete Act, data brokers are required to register annually with the state and comply with deletion requests submitted through DROP. They must also disclose the types of data they collect and share and undergo audits to confirm compliance. Companies that fail to follow the law may face administrative penalties and fines.

WHAT HAPPENS AFTER YOU SUBMIT A REQUEST

Beginning August 1, 2026, data brokers will have 45 days to process deletion requests submitted through DROP. Consumers can check the status of their request through the platform to see whether their data has been deleted.

Users can add additional personal information to their request at any time. New submissions may take up to 90 days to process. The DROP website also provides educational resources about data brokers and consumer privacy rights.

Get started and submit your request at **privacy.ca.gov/drop**.

Share Your Feedback **Anytime**

The Village's ongoing resident survey is quick, anonymous, mobile friendly and available in multiple languages. Rate service experiences, share impressions and suggest improvements year-round.

Click the "Contact us" button and select **"Resident survey"** or visit **lagunawoodsvillage.com/resident-survey.**

For general feedback only. Do not use for emergencies or urgent issues.

Beware the 'Glue Trap' Mail Scam

Residents are encouraged to remain alert for mail scams involving glue traps and other misleading solicitations. In this scam, criminals place glue traps or sticky devices inside public mailboxes to steal letters and envelopes before they are officially collected.

How the Scam Works

Criminals insert a glue mouse trap or adhesive device into a mailbox slot. A sticky strap or tool is then lowered into the box to snag mail as it drops in, particularly checks or items containing sensitive information. The stolen mail may be used to alter checks or harvest personal or financial data. Similar "mailbox fishing" techniques have been reported in other communities.

How to Protect Your Mail

- Deposit mail inside a post office and hand it directly to a clerk.
- Avoid using street collection boxes for checks or important documents.
- Before mailing, check the slot for any sticky residue or foreign objects. If something appears unusual, do not use the box and report it to local law enforcement or the U.S. Postal Inspection Service.
- Monitor bank accounts and credit reports regularly for unauthorized activity.

Other Common Mail Scams

- Imposters posing as government agencies, financial institutions or utilities
- Prize or lottery notices requesting payment or personal information
- Unsolicited offers that seem too good to be true
- Fake charity solicitations that closely resemble legitimate organizations
- Urgent notices demanding immediate action or threatening penalties

General Safety Tips

- Be cautious of mail that creates a sense of urgency or fear.
- Do not send money, checks or personal information to unfamiliar senders.
- Verify claims by contacting companies directly using known phone numbers or websites.
- Shred suspicious mail and report concerns to appropriate authorities.

Report Mail Fraud

Mail fraud is a federal crime. For questions or to report suspected mail scams or theft, contact the U.S. Postal Inspection Service hotline at **877-876-2455**, option 2, or submit an online report at **uspis.gov/report**.

New to the Village? Attend a New Resident Orientation

Whether you're new to Laguna Woods Village or would simply like a refresher on key resident information, attending a new resident orientation is one of the best ways to get connected and informed.

Orientations for Third Laguna Hills Mutual and United Laguna Woods Mutual are held monthly in the Community Center board room, located at 24351 El Toro Road. These sessions provide important information about services, governance, amenities and helpful resources available to residents.

Please note that the information shared at Third and United orientations differs. Be sure to RSVP for the orientation that corresponds with your mutual.

To view the 2026 schedule and reserve your seat, visit **lagunawoodsvillage.com/NRO**.

Attending an orientation is a simple way to gain clarity, ask questions and feel more confident navigating life in the Village.

What Mutual Do I Live In?

Members of Third Mutual own condos. Manor numbers are 961-969, 2109-2120, 2126-2129, 2131-2136, 2166-2182, 2192-2208 or 2221-5598.

Members of United Mutual own co-ops. Manor numbers are 1-960, 2001-2108, 2121-2125, 2130, 2137-2165, 2183-2191 or 2209-2220.

MemorialCare Saddleback Medical Center

Integrative Oncology Program & Classes

We are pleased to offer our integrative oncology program, which combines conventional medical treatment with supportive classes and programs to care for your mind, body, and spirit.

We invite cancer patients and survivors to join our complimentary Expressive Arts, Onco-Ballet, and Yoga classes, thoughtfully designed to offer gentle support, ease side effects, restore energy, and nurture emotional well-being.

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Saddleback Medical Center

To learn more, visit memorialcare.org/IOProgram

WHERE THE VILLAGE

Beyond recreation, Clubhouse 1 is one of the Village's most versatile meeting and event spaces.

Multiple rooms accommodate club meetings, classes and lectures, while dining rooms and the main lounge can be reserved for private events. Some rooms open directly onto a patio with barbecue facilities, making them ideal for casual gatherings. Depending on setup, dining rooms can host up to 38 people, while the main lounge can accommodate up to 300 for lectures or 220 seated at tables.

The Drop-In Lounge, now a familiar and much-loved feature, has its own history. It first came into existence in August 1975, sponsored by the Institute for Living and originally located in Dining Room 2. The space was remodeled in 2013 and again in 2025, evolving with the needs of the community while preserving its role as an easy, welcoming place to pause, connect or simply spend time.

Coffee is available weekdays, making the lounge a natural stop before or after a workout, meeting or class.

CLUBHOUSE 1

24232 Calle Aragon
Laguna Woods, CA 92637
lagunawoodsvillage.com/clubhouse-1
949-597-4281

A PLACE TO CONNECT

Running along the front of the building, the Corridor of Club Plaques tells another story. Each plaque marks a chapter

COMES TO LIFE

If Laguna Woods Village has a front porch, it is Clubhouse 1.

By Ellyce Rothrock
Photos by Mark Rabinowitch

in the social life of the Village, honoring the many clubs, events and gatherings that have passed through Clubhouse 1 over the decades. Together, they form a quiet record of shared interests, volunteer spirit and countless moments of connection.

Clubhouse 1 also serves as the transportation hub for the Easy Rider bus system, reinforcing its role as a central connector within the Village. Residents passing through may be heading to a class, a club meeting, a medical appointment or simply home again, all intersecting in one shared space.

MORE THAN A BUILDING

For more than 60 years, Clubhouse 1 has adapted to the changing interests and needs of the community while remaining true to its purpose. It is active without being intimidating, social without being overwhelming and familiar without feeling static. In a Village filled with remarkable amenities, Clubhouse 1 stands out not just for what it offers, but for what it represents. It is where history lives alongside daily life, and where the Village continues to come together, just as it has since day one.

Clubhouse 1 serves as the transportation hub for the Village bus system. Easy Rider Bus System hours are from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Monday through Friday, with the last fleet of buses departing the facility at 4:30 p.m. Visit lagunawoodsvillage.com/services/transportation-services for schedules, information about the Journey and Boost programs, FAQs and more.

ARCHERY

Residents can learn the safe, healthful and fun sport of archery from experienced and qualified teachers.

Five Bird Archery Club hours

- Monday, Wednesday, Friday 6 to 8 p.m.
- Saturday, Sunday 8:30 to 10:30 a.m.

Laguna Woods Archery Club hours

- Monday through Friday 1 to 3 p.m.
- Saturday, Sunday 11 a.m. to 1 p.m.

BADMINTON

Grab your shuttlecock, some badminton racquets and a friend (or four) and head over to Clubhouse 1 for a rousing game.

Directly adjacent to the Clubhouse 1 campus are the Village Library and the Laguna Woods History Center. For more information about these truly wonderful Village gems, including operating hours, resources and other details, visit lagunawoodsvillage.com/village-library and lagunawoodshistory.org.

Schedule:

- Monday through Friday 8 to 9:50 a.m.
- Tuesday, Thursday, Friday 7 to 9:30 p.m.
- Saturday 8 to 10:50 a.m. and 7 to 9:30 p.m.
- Sunday 11 a.m. to 1:50 p.m. and 7 to 9:30 p.m.

BASKETBALL

Jump into a pickup game, practice your free-throw or dunk like LeBron. Play in the gym during any open time as well as during scheduled times.

Schedule:

- Monday 4 to 5:50 p.m.
- Saturday 5 to 6:50 p.m.
- Sunday 6 to 6:50 p.m.

BILLIARDS

With four billiard tables and a snooker table at Clubhouse 1, there are plenty of opportunities to hone your skills and eventually run the table.

Schedule:

8 a.m. to 10 p.m.

BOCCE BALL

Say "buongiorno" to bocce! Located next to Clubhouse 1, carpeted bocce courts are well shaded, with free lessons and equipment available. Appropriate, modest attire must be worn and visitors and non-members are always welcome. Visit the Bocce and Social Club at **lagunawoodsvillage.com** for more information.

Schedule:

Daily 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. (time adjusts with seasonal daylight)

CARD ROOM

This is a popular spot for residents to play mahjong, poker, bridge, scrabble and more.

Schedule:

Daily 8 a.m. to 10 p.m.

DROP-IN LOUNGE

Schedule:

Daily 8 a.m. to 10 p.m.
Coffee available Monday through Friday 8 a.m. – 4 p.m.

FITNESS CENTER

The Clubhouse 1 fitness center, the main facility designated specifically for exercise and fitness, provides a fully equipped exercise room and comprehensive program of group and individual exercise classes.

Schedule:

- Monday, Wednesday, Friday 7 a.m. to 7 p.m.*
- Tuesday, Thursday 7 a.m. to 5 p.m.
- Saturday, Sunday 8 a.m. to 2 p.m.

*Please note only the cardio machines are available during the circuit class held Wednesdays and Fridays from 1 to 2 p.m. Guests of residents are welcome to visit the fitness center, but the guest must be over 16 years old, accompanied by the resident and signed in with staff.

Services: Treadmills, stationary bicycles, arm ergometers, rowing and stair climbing machines, weightlifting machines, dumbbells, benches and miscellaneous exercise items. The gymnasium hosts group exercise classes, basketball, volleyball and badminton, and various dance classes.

SHUFFLEBOARD

Play shuffleboard on indoor courts located behind Clubhouse 1. The Shuffleboard Association is always ready to welcome new friends. A regular league plays several days a week, and free lessons, tournaments and social activities are available. No partner required—singles are welcome!

SWIMMING POOL/HOT TUB

Pool 1 offers a very comfortable temperature between 82 and 84 degrees, a lift chair and no lane lines.

Schedule*:

- Daily 8 a.m. to 9 p.m.
- Tuesday 9 a.m. to 9 p.m.

Aquadettes practice:

- Monday, Friday 11 a.m. to noon

Emeritus class:

- Monday, Wednesday, Friday 10 to 10:50 a.m.
- Tuesday, Thursday 11 to 11:50 a.m.

*For the most current pool schedule, visit **lagunawoodsvillage.com/about/all-amenities/recreation-fitness/aquatics**.

VOLLEYBALL

Whether you're interested in competitive volleyball or just want to volley for a few games, the Village has the courts and the clubs for you to get your spike on.

Schedule:

- Monday (open) 6 to 9:30 p.m.
- Wednesday (advanced) 6 to 9:30 p.m.
- Thursday (open) 4:30 to 6:50 p.m.
- Friday (advanced) 2 to 4:50 p.m.
- Saturday (open) 2 to 4:50 p.m.
- Sunday (advanced) 2 to 5:50 p.m.

STRETCHING YOUR DOLLARS

Senior discounts are everywhere—you just have to ask.

By Susan Logan-McCracken

When it comes to senior discounts, one simple rule applies: It never hurts to ask. In fact, it often pays to ask which discount is best. A seasonal promotion may save you more than a standard senior rate, and in some cases, discounts can even be combined for greater savings.

Don't wait for an establishment to offer a discount. Sometimes employees aren't aware one exists until they check with a manager. While some discounts begin as early as age 50, most start between ages 55 and 65.

TRAVEL AND TRANSPORTATION

Airlines

Several airlines offer discounted fares for older

travelers, though availability varies by route and travel dates. Air France, American Airlines, Southwest Airlines and United Airlines offer discounts on select flights for travelers ages 65 and older. Frontier Airlines offers discounted fares for individuals ages 55 and older. Air India, Alaska Airlines, Delta Air Lines, JetBlue and other carriers offer various senior discounts. British Airways provides discounts to AARP members.

For details and availability, contact airlines directly or visit these websites:

- **theseniorlist.com**
- **aarp.org/travel**

Car Rentals

Many major car rental companies offer age-based or AARP discounts.

- **Alamo:** Up to 25% off for AARP members
- **Avis:** $10 to $25 off for AARP members
- **Budget:** 10% to 25% off domestic and international rentals
- **Dollar and Hertz:** 10% off for travelers ages 50 and older
- **Payless:** 5% off leisure daily, weekly, weekend and monthly rates for AARP members

For more information, visit:

- **carrentalsavers.com**
- **theseniorlist.com**
- **aarp.org/travel**

Cruises

AARP members can enjoy a variety of cruise savings, including onboard credits and discounted fares.

- **AARP Travel Center powered by Expedia:** Up to $100 in onboard credit
- **Collette:** Up to $250 off select cruises
- **Grand European Travel:** Up to $100 off luxury river cruises
- **Holland America Line:** Up to $200 in onboard credit
- **HX Expeditions:** 5% off cruise fares plus onboard credit
- **Vacations by Rail:** 5% off rail and cruise vacations

Hotels

AARP partners with numerous hotel brands nationwide. Visit **aarp.org/travel** for a complete list of participating locations.

- **Best Western:** 5% off the best available rates
- **Cambria, Clarion and Radisson:** 10% off the best available rates
- **Wyndham:** 10% off the standard rates
- **Tiller House, Laguna Hills:** Discounts for guests ages 62 and older

Subsidized Taxi Travel

The Senior Mobility Program helps Laguna Woods Village residents ages 60 and older travel safely, affordably and independently. Supported in part by the Orange County Transportation Authority and OC Go (Measure M2), the program offers deeply subsidized taxi fares for trips starting or ending in the Village.

With a program ID card, California Yellow Cab fares are reduced through June 30, 2027, including free trips to select transportation centers and discounted rates throughout Orange County and to John Wayne Airport.

Enrollment is free and available at Laguna Woods City Hall. Proof of age and residency is required. For details, call **949-639-0500**.

ENTERTAINMENT AND EXPERIENCES

Movie Theaters

AARP members can receive up to 25% off movie e-tickets at AMC, Regal, Cinemark, United Artists and other participating theater chains.

National Parks

One of the best senior perks is lifetime access to America's national parks.

Beginning at age 62, individuals are eligible for a $20 annual or $80 lifetime Senior Pass from the National Park Service. The pass provides free entry to all national parks for the pass holder and up to three accompanying adults, along with discounts on select park amenities. Learn more at **nps.gov**.

Dana Wharf Sportfishing & Whale Watching, Dana Point

Discounted whale watching, dolphin tours, fishing charters and cruises are available for adults ages 55 and older. Visit **danawharf.com**.

Newport Beach Whale Watching and Dolphin Cruise

Seniors ages 60 and older receive discounted fares of $30 on weekdays and $34 on weekends. Visit **newportwhales.com**.

Sherman Library & Gardens, Corona del Mar

Admission is $5 or free for members. A $50 senior or $75 dual senior annual membership includes unlimited admission, a 15% discount at the Garden Shop and a 10% discount at Roger's Gardens and Armstrong Garden Center in Newport Beach. Visit **thesherman.org**.

DINING OUT

Restaurants

Many restaurants offer senior discounts, though they are not always advertised. Asking can pay off.

- **Sizzler, Polly's Pies and Woody's Diner:** Senior menus and discounts
- **Jack in the Box:** Up to 20% off for guests ages 55 and older
- **Arby's, Chili's, Dunkin, IHOP and KFC:** 10% off for guests ages 55 and older
- **El Pollo Loco and Sonic:** 10% off for guests ages 60 and older
- **Bubba Gump Shrimp Company, Chart House, Joe's Crab Shack, McCormick & Schmick's and Outback Steakhouse:** 10% off for AARP members
- **Denny's:** 15% off for AARP members
- **Papa John's:** 20% off for AARP members

Find additional listings at:

- **theseniorlist.com**
- **aarp.org/restaurants**

SHOPPING AND EVERYDAY SAVINGS

Eyeglasses

AARP members can save on eyewear at participating retailers, including discounts on frames and lenses at LensCrafters, Target Optical and Visionworks.

Weekly Discount Days

Several retailers offer age-based savings on specific days of the week:

- **Kohl's:** 15% off Wednesdays for shoppers ages 60 and older
- **Michael's:** 10% off with a rewards account for shoppers ages 55 and older
- **PetSmart:** 10% off grooming services Tuesdays for customers ages 65 and older
- **Ross Dress for Less:** 10% off Tuesdays for shoppers ages 55 and older

RESOURCES

AARP
aarp.org

Membership includes travel, dining and shopping discounts, a magazine subscription and a rewards program.

The Senior List
theseniorlist.com

A comprehensive directory of senior discounts across travel, dining, shopping and services.

Senior Discounts
SeniorDiscounts.com

Senior Discounts offers a large, searchable online listing of senior deals nationwide.

Extraordinary SERVICE

The PC Club and Mac Club play a vital role in the Ting fiber and DirecTV transition.

As Laguna Woods Village transitions to Ting fiber internet and DirecTV Stream, the Village PC Club and Mac Club have played a key role in helping residents understand, adopt and feel confident using new technology.

PC Club President Gary Russell and Mac Club President Dennis Kelly, supported by Mac Club Substitute Supervisor and Website Manager Dave Weingartner, serve as Ting ambassadors who educate residents, provide hands-on support and relay feedback directly to Ting and Village leadership. Their volunteer partnership with Ting and support of the DirecTV rollout have helped transform a complex technology transition into an opportunity for learning, confidence and connection.

PC AND MAC CLUB SUPPORT

The PC Club continues to be a cornerstone of education and support during the Ting and future DirecTV rollout. The club offers classes on home networks, Ting equipment and streaming services, along with free in-person assistance at the PC Club workshop.

Additional support is provided

TING IN YOUR NEIGHBORHOOD

Ting will host pop-up events throughout the Village now through January 2027. These informal gatherings offer chances to meet the team, ask questions and learn more about the coming transition.

CONSTRUCTION-RELATED QUESTIONS
Website: **tinginternet.com/lagunawoodsvillage**
Email: **lagunawoodsvillageconstruction@ting.com**

online through the Ting Laguna Woods Village web page (**bit.ly/46tRQIh**), in-person coordination of resident internet support experts (RISE) and outreach to local realtors.

Residents may register at **thepcclub.org** or in person at the PC Club workshop for classes. The PC Club is located on the Community Center third floor and is open Monday through Friday from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.

The Mac Club is actively supporting the transition to Ting fiber and the future of DirecTV Stream, welcoming Ting and DirecTV-related questions and helping residents with new services or equipment. The Mac Club is located at the Community Center third floor and is open Monday through Friday from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. Visit **themacclub.org** for more information.

Both clubs will soon provide instructions on DirecTV Stream along with an equipment model demonstrating what to expect with installation.

From STUDIO to SPOTLIGHT

The Laguna Woods Art Association exhibition returns.

"Laguna Beach (A View From Hotel Montage)," Behzad Kholousi

1

Did you know you can step inside an art gallery without ever leaving the Village? The newly installed 2026 Laguna Woods Art Association exhibition transforms the Laguna Woods Village Community Center into a vibrant celebration of resident creativity. Nearly 150 original works line the first- and third-floor hallways and alcoves, creating an immersive experience that invites viewers to slow down, look closely and discover something new around every corner.

Each piece is created by a resident artist and member of the association, many of whom work out of the art studio at Clubhouse 4 to provide an impressive range of mediums, styles, subjects and techniques. Some works quietly charm; others provoke thought and many spark instant connection. Most pieces are also available for purchase, offering a rare opportunity to bring a piece of Village-made art home.

Founded in 1965, the Laguna Woods Art Association has long been a cornerstone of the community's cultural life. Its mission is simple and enduring: to foster the highest possible application of fine art in any and all media. That mission comes to life through free art classes, demonstrations by renowned artists, juried and non-juried shows, workshops, field trips and the everyday buzz of creativity in the studio. Members also enjoy access to an extensive art library, low-cost art supplies, mat cutting services and the kind of social gatherings that make art-making a shared joy.

This annual exhibition is the association's signature moment, a chance to step out of the studio and into the spotlight, and to share that creative energy with the entire community. What you see here is only a glimpse of the talent on display, but it is more than enough to remind us that art truly lives here.

Stop by the Community Center soon and take your time exploring this remarkable showcase of resident talent, creativity and imagination.

1. "Winds of Becoming," Docia Reed
2. "High Point," Bill Mueller
3. "Flower Fantasy," Deborah Joy Shriver
4. "Our Bassist," Ken Oku
5. "Dragon Fly Queen," Maribeth McFaul
6. "High Vista," Gail Jorden
7. "Le Renard Café and Marketplace," Bonnie Fox
8. "Martini Time," Janet Havey
9. "By the Riverside," Kathy Lin
10. "On the Vine (Los Oliveros)," Jacqueline Daugherty
11. "Autumn at the River Bend," Amy Ren

Laguna Woods Village
Community Center
24351 El Toro Road
Monday through Friday
8 a.m. to 5 p.m.

TO THE **ENDS OF THE EARTH:**
A Visual Journey to the Planet's Wildest Places

Camera Club marks 60 years with an extraordinary presentation by wildlife photographer Todd Gustafson.

What comes to mind when you hear the phrase "the ends of the Earth"? Remote landscapes. Fragile ecosystems. Wildlife few people ever witness firsthand.

In celebration of its 60th anniversary, the Camera Club of Laguna Woods Village invites residents to embark on a remarkable visual journey with acclaimed wildlife photographer and filmmaker Todd Gustafson. His presentation, "To the Ends of the Earth," offers an intimate look at some of the planet's most remote and vulnerable habitats

'TO THE ENDS OF THE EARTH' EVENT DETAILS

Date: Sunday, April 26

Time: 6:30 p.m. (doors open); presentation 7 to 8:30 p.m.

Location: Clubhouse 5 main ballroom

Subject: Wildlife photography and environmentalism

Format: Visual presentation with narration, followed by Q&A

Admission: $30

Fundraising: Sponsor and VIP tickets available (see club website)

Event webpage: cameraclublwv.org/club-events/60th-fundraiser-todd-gustafson

All nature photos © "Todd Gustafson's To the Ends of the Earth: East Africa"

through sweeping photography and cinematic storytelling.

The program includes a videotaped introduction by the late, world-renowned primatologist and conservationist Jane Goodall. Gustafson pairs breathtaking imagery with insight into the patience, fieldcraft and technical precision required to capture fleeting moments in the lives of wild animals. Those moments, he explains, reveal both the beauty and the urgency of protecting species and habitats for future generations.

THE LIFE OF A NATURE PHOTOGRAPHER

Raised in Tanzania, Gustafson has spent more than two decades photographing wildlife and natural history around the world. Since 2007, he has focused on creating his limited-edition, leather-bound "To the Ends of the Earth" book series, a three-volume collection featuring "East Africa," "Birds of East Africa" and "The Natural World." The series has been praised as among the most visually striking nature publications in recent decades.

In 2015, Gustafson traveled extensively to gather images and film footage for his "To the Ends of the Earth" documentary. His deep understanding of wildlife behavior, respect for fragile ecosystems and collaboration with local communities lend authenticity and depth to his work.

Through film and photography, Gustafson draws audiences into the daily rhythms of the natural world as animals forage, migrate, raise their young and struggle to survive in rapidly changing environments.

For more information about Gustafson and his work, visit **totheendsoftheearthllc.org**.

MORE EVENTS WITH TODD GUSTAFSON

Three additional photography events will be open to all Village residents and guests. Advance registration is required, and space is limited for some sessions.

Workshop
Monday, April 27 | 10 a.m. to noon

Wildlife photography technique instruction and discussion. A VIP image critique session (one to three images per registrant) begins at 9 a.m.

Field Trip
Monday, April 27 | 2 to 8 p.m.

A guided wildlife photography excursion in the San Diego area. Limited to six participants.

Portfolio Review
Tuesday, April 28 | 9 a.m. to noon

Thirty-minute, one-on-one portfolio reviews of three to 10 images per registrant. Limited to six time slots.

Register in person at the Clubhouse 4 photo lab or online. For details and online registration, visit **cameraclublwv.org/club-events/60th-fundraiser-todd-gustafson**

Widows, Widowers WELCOME!

The Springboks Club launches new support group as a gentle first step back into social connection after profound grief.

By Talia Rimler for Springboks

Springboks recognizes that different life experiences require different forms of support and is proud to introduce its newest offering: Widows, Widowers Welcome (WWW). Separate from our speed dating events, this dedicated program provides a safe, compassionate environment for individuals who have experienced the loss of a spouse.

WWW offers a judgment-free environment where widows and widowers can share their experiences, support one another through an understanding that comes only from shared loss, and build new friendships. For many participants, this gathering represents a gentle first step back into social connection after profound grief.

This is not speed dating, but it is something equally meaningful. All participants enter the room together and are seated in a circle to foster openness, equality and connection. Renowned sex-and-relationship expert and author, Dr. Patti Britton, will open the next two sessions with a guided discussion on relationships, setting a thoughtful and supportive tone for the gathering. Dr. Britton will contribute her expertise by leading a relationship-focused discussion, in which all participants will be invited to engage in a shared exchange where everyone offers and receives support—reinforcing the very circle of care on which WWW is built.

WHY THESE EVENTS MATTER

The WWW and speed dating events are grounded in respect, dignity and the fundamental belief that meaningful connection matters at every stage of life. Within a retirement community, we recognize that life does not pause at 55, 65 or 75. Genuine relationships are formed through shared understanding, emotional openness and hearts that continue to seek companionship at any age.

The success of these events affirms what we have long believed: When the right environment is created, professional support is provided and individuals with open hearts are brought together, meaningful connections can and do occur.

Whether you're ready to explore romantic connections through our speed dating events or seeking community and support through WWW, there's a place for you in our community. We believe in the power of connection, the strength of support and the endless possibilities that come when people come together.

At speed dating events, three Springboks representatives wear matching fuchsia shirts paired with black pants or skirts to ensure they are easily identifiable. From left: Hostess Yve Alexander, Michelle Iliescu and Springboks President Rachel Barnes

EVENT DETAILS

Widows, Widowers Welcome (WWW) events follow speed dating. Both events require separate online registration at **springboks-online.com/speed-dating**. Participation in WWW is free, but attendees are asked to donate by check to The Laguna Woods Foundation to support the broader community.

Upcoming WWW events:

- Sunday, March 15
- Sunday, May 31

Time: 7 to 8 p.m.

Location: 19 Restaurant & Lounge meeting rooms

Dress code: casual

Pro tip: 19 Restaurant & Lounge offers excellent dining options. We invite you to check out their Sunday specials and enjoy dinner before the event—it's a wonderful way to arrive relaxed and ready to connect!

Our goal: continuous improvement, ensuring a seamless, supportive and positive experience for all participants

For or more information, email **springbokslwv@gmail.com** or visit **springboks-online.com/speed-dating**

SPEED DATING

How does our speed dating event different from WWW? Each independent event requires separate registration, but you are welcome to attend both events if applicable.

Upon arrival, the ladies proceed directly to the event rooms to avoid any awkward pre-event interactions with the men. The men check in at the front desk with a Springboks representative and wait comfortably in the lobby of 19 Restaurant & Lounge until they are called into the rooms once the ladies are seated and ready.

The rooms are elegantly prepared with black tablecloths, black chair covers and a large fuchsia pink ribbon on each chair designated for the ladies. Each of the 12 tables is set with a vase of pink roses and a numbered table stand. A bell signals the end of each three-minute round, and the men rotate to their next partner.

The event is hosted in two one-hour sessions. The first group arrives at approximately 5:30 p.m., and the second group at 6:30 p.m. Matches are guaranteed within 48 hours; however, most participants receive their matches within 24 hours. Based on past events, we continuously refine our process and assist with next steps after matching. We encourage follow-up email correspondence with Springboks one day after the event for questions, feedback or clarification. For more on our speed dating event, see "Love Knows No Age" on page 24 in the November/December 2025 Village Breeze at **bit.ly/403BNx8**.

STAY PREPARED

Wildfire threats don't take a break—neither should we.

By Marcy Sheinwold for the Foundation of Laguna Woods Village

More than a year has passed since the devastating wildfires touched so many lives in Southern California. The heavy winter rains this season might make wildfires feel farther away, but the threat hasn't disappeared. Wildfires can still ignite quickly and being ready matters.

Even in greener months, dry conditions can return quickly, and wildfires can ignite with little notice. As Village residents, let's remember to take two simple but powerful actions now—before an emergency—to protect ourselves and our loved ones.

PREPARE A 'GO' BAG

A "go" bag is your personal grab-and-run kit, a backpack or duffel you can take in minutes if you are asked to evacuate. It should be easy to grab and hold items you might need for 72 hours. **Ready.gov/kit** recommends go-bag essentials such as these:

- Food and water: for example, protein bars, instant oatmeal, dried fruit, nuts and seeds, and a three-day supply of water (at least one gallon of water per person per day)
- Personal hygiene items such as toothbrush, toothpaste, wet wipes and deodorant
- Flashlight with extra batteries
- First-aid kit
- Whistle to signal for help
- Prescription medicines plus copies of prescriptions
- Important documents (IDs, insurance information, medical records, passport, driver's license and insurance cards) sealed in a waterproof bag
- Cash in small bills and a list of emergency contacts
- Cell phone charger (portable power bank)
- Comfortable shoes, a change of clothes and a blanket
- A poncho, tarp or emergency blanket to keep you warm

You may want to include some additional items; for example, a battery pack for your cell phone or a battery-operated radio. You should also periodically check your bag and replace items as needed.

SIGN UP FOR ALERTOC

AlertOC is Orange County's official emergency notification system, which sends messages via text, phone call, email and app alerts when a wildfire threat, evacuation order or other urgent incident is in your area. You choose how you want to be contacted.

To enroll, visit **AlertOC.org** and register your phone numbers and email addresses. Once signed up, you will receive real-time updates from public safety agencies—often before social media or news outlets.

For more information about the Foundation of Laguna Woods Village or its "Planning for the Unpredictable" video series, visit **foundationoflagunawoodsvillage.org** and select the "Planning for the Unpredictable" tab which lists a series of YouTube videos on emergency preparedness. If you need further information, call **949-268-2246** or email **foundationlwv@gmail.com**.

Neighbors helping neighbors stay safe starts with you.

PAYING YOUR INVOICE OR ASSESSMENT?

Here's what to know to avoid duplicate charges.

By Pam Jensen, Financial Services Controller

Laguna Woods Village residents have several convenient options for paying chargeable service invoices and monthly assessments. Understanding processing timelines and available payment methods can help ensure payments post correctly and prevent duplicate charges.

ALLOW TIME FOR PAYMENTS TO POST

If you make a credit or debit card payment through the resident portal for a chargeable or assessment invoice, please allow up to four business days for the payment to post to your account.

During that four-business-day window, please do not return to the portal to submit another payment. Submitting a second payment before the first has posted will result in a duplicate charge to your card.

If an invoice still appears outstanding more than four business days after you've submitted payment, email **ar@vmsinc.org** before making another payment. The Accounts Receivable team can review your account and confirm the status to help avoid additional charges.

If a duplicate payment does occur, staff must manually process the refund. Once requested, refunds may take up to seven business days to be credited back to your account.

Payments made by check and sent by mail may take up to 10 business days to post, depending on mail delivery and processing times.

CHOOSING THE RIGHT PAYMENT METHOD

Residents may pay chargeable service invoices by credit or debit card through the resident portal without incurring a credit card service fee.

Monthly assessments may also be paid by credit or debit card; however, a 3.5% service fee is applied by the credit card company for assessment payments.

For residents who wish to avoid that fee, EZ Pay offers a convenient alternative. EZ Pay is an automatic bank draft program administered by the Golden Rain Foundation of Laguna Woods and is the most efficient way to pay monthly assessments. There is no service fee for payments made through EZ Pay.

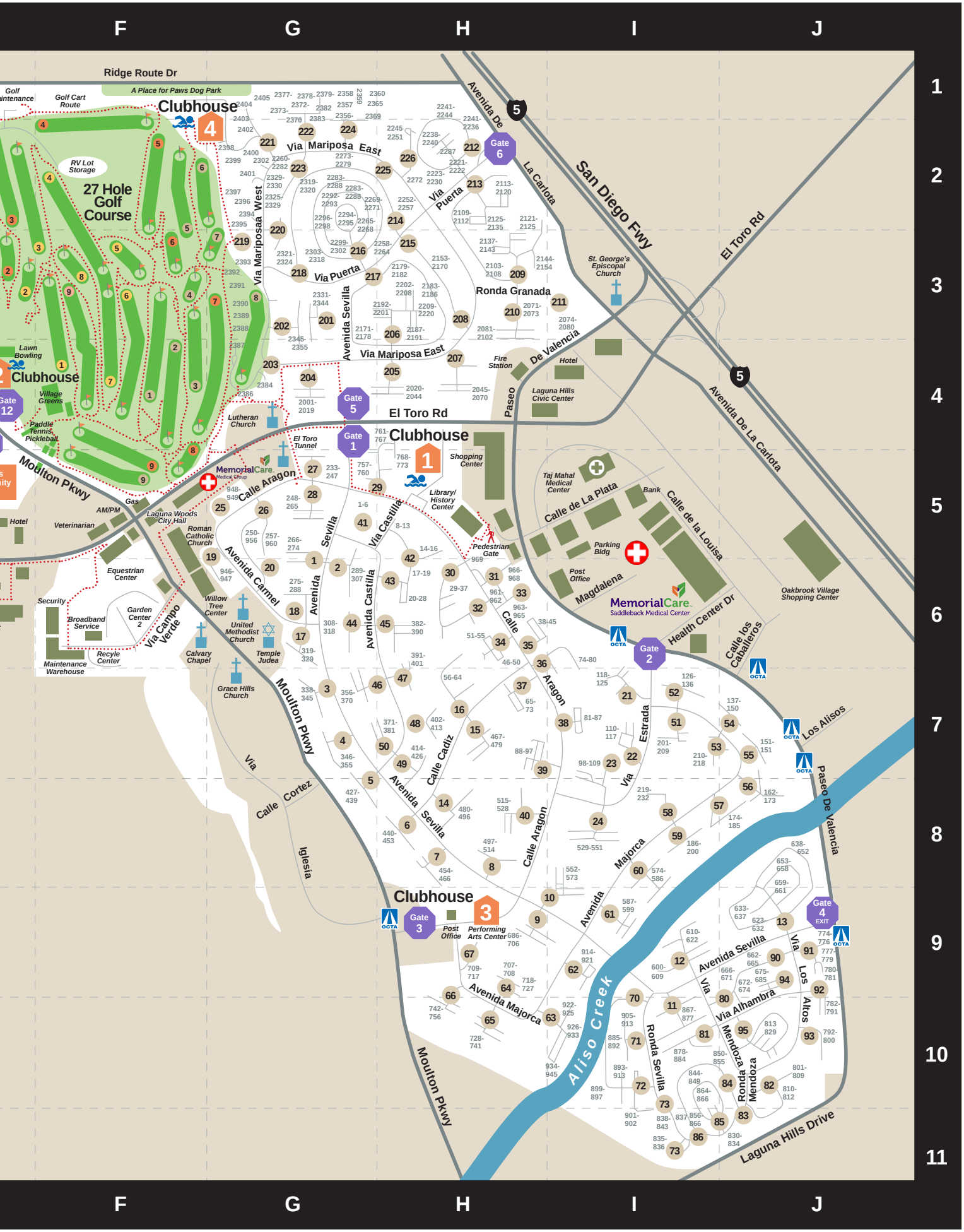
Enrollment forms are available at **lagunawoodsvillage.com > Services > Financial Services > EZ Pay Automatic Payment Program**.

By selecting the payment option that best fits your needs and allowing sufficient time for processing, you can help ensure smooth and accurate posting of your payments.

> Enrolling in EZ Pay is the easiest, most efficient way to pay assessments.

LAGUNA WOODS VILLAGE COMMUNITY STREET MAP

KEYS TO THE COMMUNITY



KEYS TO THE COMMUNITY

The Laguna Woods Village Community Center
24351 El Toro Road
Laguna Woods, CA 92637
lagunawoodsvillage.com
949-597-4600

EMAILS PROVIDED WHERE AVAILABLE

Stay in Touch!

Use these frequently called numbers to seek assistance, find answers and more.

ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICES

General Information	949-597-4600
information@lagunawoodsvillage.com	
info@vmsinc.org	

AMENITIES AND RECREATION

General Information	949-597-4273
recreation@vmsinc.org	
19 Restaurant and Lounge	949-206-1525
Clubhouse 1 Office/Pool 1	949-597-4281
Clubhouse 1 Fitness Center	949-597-4284
Clubhouse 2 Office/Pool 2	949-597-4286
Clubhouse 4 Office/Pool 4 (Mon - Fri)	949-597-4291
Clubhouse 4 Office/Pool 4 (Sat & Sun)	949-597-4344
Clubhouse 5 Office/Pool 5	949-597-4382
Clubhouse 6 Office/Pool 6	949-597-4437
Clubhouse 7 Office	949-268-2417
Clubhouse Reservations	949-597-4227
Community Fitness Center	949-268-2275
Equestrian Center	949-597-4275
Golf and Village Greens	949-597-4336
Golf (Par 3 Course)	949-597-4334
Performing Arts Center	949-597-4289
Performing Arts Center Box Office	949-597-4288
Village Library	949-597-4274
lwvillagelibrary@yahoo.com	
Village Television	949-597-4295

COMMUNITY ACCESS

Community Access	949-597-4600
Gate Clearance	949-597-4301

EMERGENCY AND MEDICAL SERVICES

Fire, Police, Medical Emergency	911
Care Ambulance Service	877-972-0999
MemorialCare Saddleback Hospital	949-837-4500
OC Fire Authority Public Information Line	800-545-5585
OC Sheriff's Nonemergency Dispatch	949-770-6011

MISCELLANEOUS

Animal Services, City of Laguna Beach	949-497-0701
Non-Emergency Coyote Hotline	949-639-0501
City of Laguna Woods	949-639-0500
Florence Sylvester Senior Center	949-380-0155
Foundation of Laguna Woods Village	949-268-2246
Laguna Woods Globe (subscriptions)	714-796-7777
lagunawoodsglobe@scng.com	
Laguna Woods History Center	949-206-0150
info@lagunawoodshistory.org	
Lost and Found	949-597-4435
lostandfound@vmsinc.org	
RV Storage	949-268-2284
Saddleback College Emeritus Institute	949-582-4835
The Towers	949-597-4278
care@pmpmanage.com	

RESIDENT SERVICES

Manor Alterations	949-597-4616
alterations@vmsinc.org	
Resident Services	949-597-4600
residentservices@vmsinc.org	
Social Services	949-597-4267

SECURITY

Compliance Hotline (anonymous)	949-268-2255
Department of Security Services (24/7)	949-580-1400
Disaster Preparedness Task Force	949-597-4237

TRANSPORTATION

Village Bus System	949-597-4659

UTILITIES

Broadband (Cable)	949-837-2670
CR&R Inc. (Trash)	949-625-6735
LagunaWoods-Recycles@CRRmail.com	
El Toro Water District	949-837-0660
Southern California Gas Company	877-238-0092
Southern California Edison	800-655-4555
West Coast Internet Customer Service	949-487-3302

In Your Neighborhood

To find out what's going on in and around your neighborhood, visit lagunawoodsvillage.com, go to the Services menu, click on Maintenance and Construction and scroll down to project logs.

GRF PROJECT LOG

UNITED MUTUAL PROJECT LOG

THIRD MUTUAL PROJECT LOG

GRF Facilities Sweeping Schedule

1ST FRIDAY OF THE MONTH
4 to 5:30 a.m. Clubhouse 1
5:30 to 6 a.m. Clubhouse 2

2ND FRIDAY OF THE MONTH
4 to 5:30 a.m. Clubhouse 3
5:30 to 6 a.m. Clubhouse 4

3RD FRIDAY OF THE MONTH
4 to 6 a.m. Clubhouse 7
6 to 7 a.m. Clubhouse 5
7 to 8 a.m. Clubhouse 6

4TH FRIDAY OF THE MONTH
4 to 7 a.m. Maintenance Center
Garden Centers
Equestrian Center Lot

5TH FRIDAY OF THE MONTH (WHEN APPLIES)
4 to 7 a.m. RV Lots
Golf Maintenance

Street Sweeping Schedule
**All times are approximate and subject to change*

MONDAY TO FRIDAY
7:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m.
Cul-de-sacs

MONDAY
7:30 to 11:30 a.m.
Gates 1, 2, 3 – Calle Aragon to Via Estrada North
11:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m.
Gates 1, 2, 3 – Calle Aragon to Via Estrada South

TUESDAY
7:30 to 11:30 a.m.
Gates 5, 6 - All streets in this area
11:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m.
Gate 14 – All streets in this area

WEDNESDAY
7:30 to 11:30 a.m.
Gates 7, 8 – Calle Sonora/Alta Vista (East Area)
11:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m.
Gates 7, 8, 9 – Calle Sonora/Alta Vista (West Area)

THURSDAY
7:30 to 11:30 a.m.
Gate 10 – East of Ave. Sosiega & North of Monte Hermoso
11:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m.
Gate 9 – South of Monte Hermoso
Every other week
Gate 9 – Towers Parking Lot

FRIDAY
GRF Facilities
Please see GRF Facilities Sweeping Schedule.

Gate 11 – All streets in this area
No numbered cul-de-sacs fourth week of the month

YOUR GUIDE TO EVENTS, FITNESS AND FUN

RECREATION OFFICE
COMMUNITY CENTER

24351 El Toro Road
949-597-4273
recreation@vmsinc.org

Visit lagunawoodsvillage.com > Amenities for activities, classes, fitness and sports, golf, facilities, clubs and more. For registration, visit the Recreation office or the facility where the class/event is held.

JOIN THE 2026 LAP CHALLENGE

Who's ready to take the plunge in the 2026 Lap Challenge? Embark on an epic swim adventure—a virtual "journey" covering 250 miles from Stockholm to Helsinki. That's equivalent to 8,750 laps or 17,500 lengths.

HOW IT WORKS

Swim at lap pools 2 and 5 anytime during the year. Log your progress online or with the pool attendant every time you swim to track your miles. Use the same measurement each time (laps or lengths).

This exciting challenge is open to all residents, so dive in, stay motivated, and make every lap count. The challenge ends December 26, 2026. For more information, contact 949-597-4273.

2025 LAP CHALLENGE HIGHLIGHTS

A huge round of applause for the 2025 Lap Challenge swimmers, who set out to swim 180 miles from Busan, South Korea, to Nagasaki, Japan. That ambitious goal translates to 6,300 laps or 12,600 lengths in the pool.

- **Champion:** Eng-Hong Lin swam an astonishing 14,359 laps to exceed the challenge.
- **Runner-up:** Alan Tsubota also exceeded the goal by swimming 11,385 laps.
- **Third place:** Richard Fairweather Lin powered through 10,783.175 laps to reach and exceed the goal.

ADDITIONAL PARTICIPANTS:

- Kay Havens: 4,210 laps
- Manfred Koppitsch: 3,045 laps
- Jim Quigley: 2,404 laps
- Yin Soong: 855 laps
- Kevin Hudnell: 669 laps
- Cynthia Aroz: 647.5 laps
- Ram Ronen: 622 laps
- Hedy Williamson: 551 laps
- Yumi Hayakawa: 394 laps

Congratulations to everyone who participated in 2025, and best of luck to the 2026 challenge hopefuls!

Join the 1,000-Mile Club

The 1,000-Mile Club is an exercise incentive program designed to help participants stay active all year long. The program encourages consistent movement while providing a visual record of miles logged through activities such as walking, jogging, swimming, biking or rowing. Participants who reach 1,000 miles by the end of the calendar year will receive a commemorative T-shirt.

Please review the following participation and completion guidelines:

1. Register through ActiveNet, found at **lagunawoodsvillage.com > Services > Recreation and Special Events.**
2. The annual fee of $20 or $25 includes a T-shirt upon completion of 1,000 miles.
3. An average of 20 miles per week is needed to reach 1,000 miles in a year.
4. Participants are asked to follow the honor system and record only miles personally completed.
5. Miles may be earned through walking, cycling, swimming, hiking or any other distance-based activity.
6. Email monthly mileage totals to Chris at **christopher.mora@vmsinc.org**.
7. At the end of each month, staff will email cumulative totals to all participants.
8. The final deadline to report mileage is December 23, 2026, unless 1,000 are completed earlier.

HEALTH AND WELLNESS EXPO

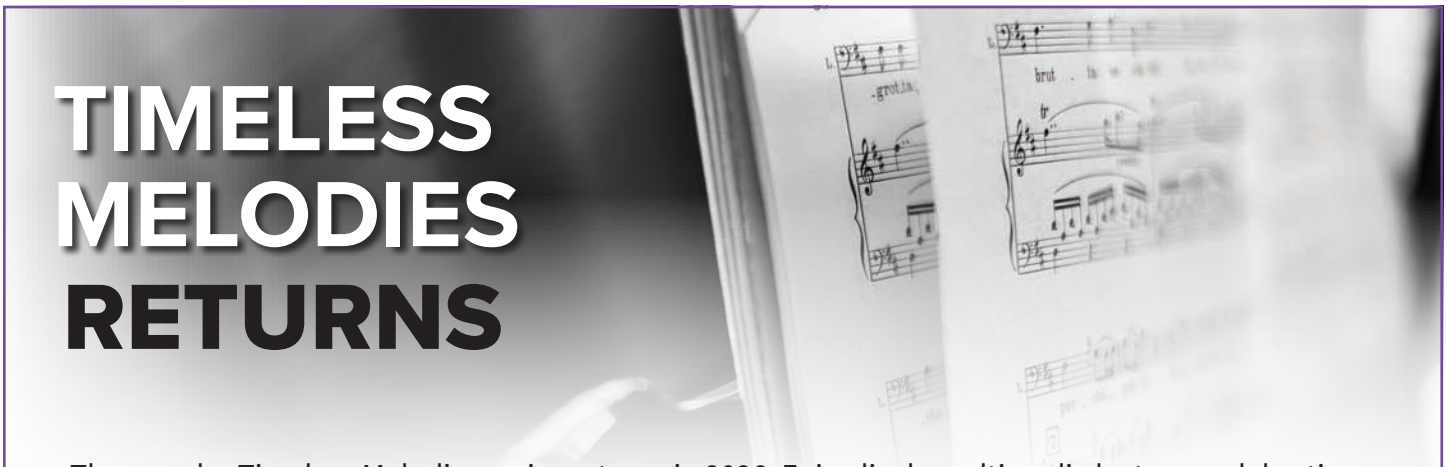
The 2026 Village Health and Wellness Expo will take place at Clubhouse 5 Saturday, March 28, from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. and will feature a sponsor fair and raffle prizes, a free box lunch while supplies last and much more! Expo admission is free. Call 949-597-4382 or email recreation@vmsinc.org for more information.

LET THE GAMES BEGIN!

The 2026 Village Games begin Monday, April 6, with closing ceremony on Thursday, April 30. The anticipated competition features 24 events scheduled throughout the community: Archery, badminton, basketball, bicycling, billiards, bocce ball, equestrian, golf (18-hole, nine-hole and par-three), lawn bowling, outdoor pickleball, paddle tennis, pétanque, poker, Scrabble, shuffleboard, swimming, table tennis, target shooting, tennis, volleyball and light volleyball.

Register in the Community Center fitness facility at 24351 El Toro Road during regular operating hours or online via ActiveNet. Registration packets are available at **bit.ly/4b96wPK**. Registration closes Monday, March 16. For details, call **949-268-2275**.

TIMELESS MELODIES RETURNS



The popular Timeless Melodies series returns in 2026. Enjoy lively multimedia lectures celebrating music that set the standard for generations. Through captivating storytelling, rare film clips and cherished songs, beloved music historian Larry Maurer brings the past to life.

Two lectures are scheduled at the Performing Arts Center in March and April at 2 p.m. (doors open 1:30).

- **March 24 – Oscar's Best Songs 1935 – 1959**
  "Over the Rainbow," "Thanks for the Memory" and "Three Coins in the Fountain" are three beloved songs that earned the coveted Oscar, but who wrote them? Enjoy an engaging hour of music and history as the envelope is opened and the winner is announced.

- **April 28 – 'I Gotta Be Me' – Sammy Davis Jr.**
  A revealing look into the life of this trailblazing performer who confronted racism with brilliance, versatility and unmatched talent. A singer, dancer, actor and comedian, Davis was always "quick on the draw."

Tickets are $5 for each date and on sale in the PAC box office or at **tickets.lagunawoodsvillage.com**. For more information, call **949-597-4289** or email **recreation@vmsinc.org**.

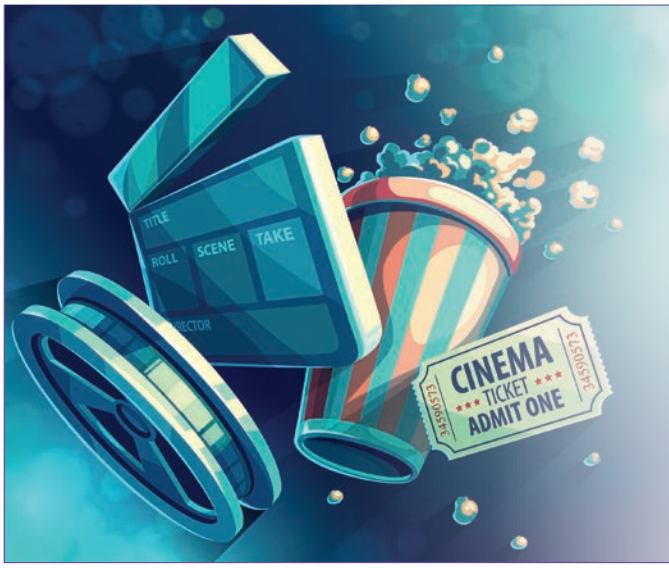
TWO LEGENDS, **ONE STAGE**

Experience unforgettable songs, sharp banter and the thrilling chemistry of two powerhouse performers bringing the iconic Frank Sinatra and Barbra Streisand to life on Saturday, April 25, at 7:30 p.m. in the Performing Arts Center (23822 Avenida Sevilla).

Tickets for $20, $25 and $30 are on sale at the Performing Arts Center box office and at tickets.lagunawoodsvillage.com. Credit card/check only; card fees apply. Enjoy beverages from the no-host GRF bar.

Eat, Drink and BE IRISH!

Wear your green and head to Clubhouse 1 for a traditional Irish dinner on St. Patrick's Day, Tuesday, March 17, at 5 p.m. Martinez's menu includes corned beef and cabbage; chicken piccata; red parsley potatoes; green garden salad; buttered baby carrots; rolls, soda bread and butter; and key lime pie. The GRF no-host bar includes $4 bottled Guinness and $7 Jameson Irish whiskey. Tickets are $28 and are on sale in the Clubhouse 1 office. Credit or check only. Credit/debit card fees apply. For more information, call **949-597-4281** or email **recreation@vmsinc.org**.



MONDAY MOVIES AT THE PAC

Don't miss these upcoming Monday Movies at the Performing Arts Center:

- **Life of Chuck – March 16**
- **The Etruscan Smile – April 20**

Doors open at 1:30 and 6:30 p.m. for showings at 2 and 7 p.m.

For more information, call **949-597-4288** or email **recreation@vmsinc.org**.

RECREATION AND SPECIAL EVENTS

FREQUENTLY CALLED NUMBERS

RECREATION OFFICE 949-597-4273

BRIDGE ROOM 949-268-2420

CLUBHOUSES

- Clubhouse Reservations 949-597-4227
- Clubhouse 1/Pool 1 949-597-4281
- Clubhouse 2/Pool 2 949-597-4285
- Clubhouse 3/Performing Arts Center 949-597-4289
- Performing Arts Center Box Office 949-597-4288
- Clubhouse 4/Pool 4 949-597-4344
- Clubhouse 5/Pool 5 949-597-4382
- Clubhouse 6/Pool 6 949-597-4437
- Clubhouse 7 949-268-2417

EQUESTRIAN CENTER 949-597-4275

FITNESS CENTERS

- Clubhouse 1 Fitness Center 949-597-4284
- Clubhouse 5 Fitness Center 949-597-4382
- Community Fitness Center 949-268-2275

GARDEN CENTERS 949-268-2387

GOLF

- Golf and Village Greens 949-597-4336
- 19 Restaurant and Lounge 949-206-1525
- Par 3 Course 949-597-4334

HISTORY CENTER 949-206-0150

LAWN BOWLING 949-951-3027

LIBRARY 949-597-4274

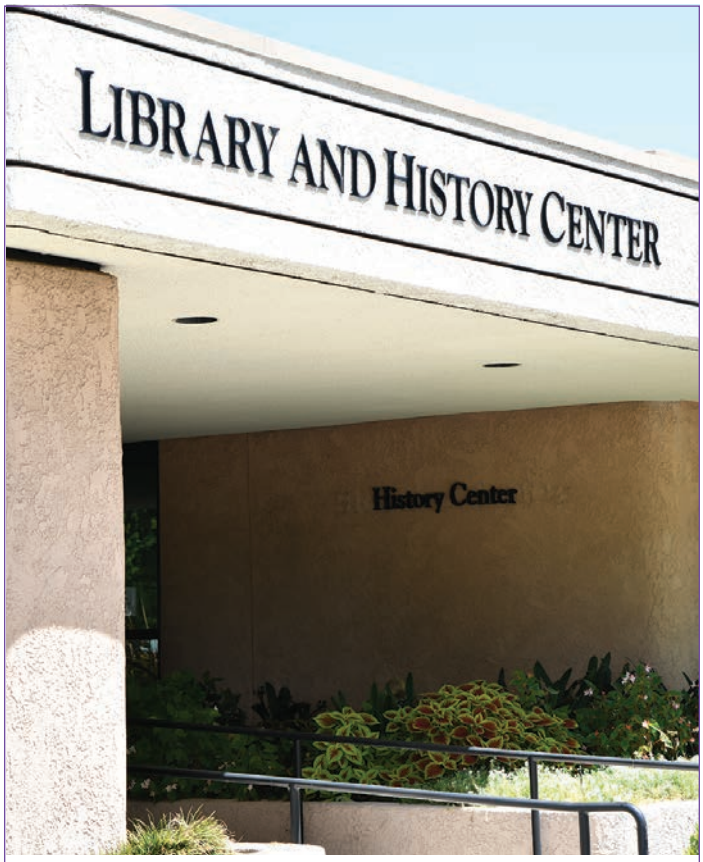
PC WORKSHOP 949-268-2262

MAC LEARNING CENTER 949-268-2263

SADDLEBACK EMERITUS OFFICE 949-582-4835

TENNIS CENTER 949-268-2481

VIDEO LEARNING CENTER 949-470-0965



LIBRARY AND HISTORY CENTER

The Library and History Center are located adjacent to each other at 24266 Calle Aragon.

Library Hours
Monday through Friday: 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.
Saturday: 10 a.m. to 1 p.m.
Sunday: Closed
949-597-4274; lwvillagelibrary@yahoo.com

History Center Hours
Monday through Friday: 11 a.m. to 1 p.m.
or by appointment
949-206-0150; info@lagunawoodshistory.org; lagunawoodshistory.org

GET MOVING

Visit **lagunawoodsvillage.com > Amenities > View All Amenities** to learn more about the Village's resort-style amenities.

- View a list of amenities, location, contact information, registration process and more.
- Consider taking one or more of the almost 20 classes currently offered, including mat/chair yoga, ballroom dance, English or Spanish language classes, cycling, aquatic classes and more.
- Check out the schedule of current recreation classes at **bit.ly/3YmE59C**.

CLUB LOVE

In addition to the many amenities and activities offered through the Recreation and Special Events Department, more than 200 clubs, special interest groups and organizations offer residents a wealth of fun and entertainment. With so many clubs to choose from, there's sure to be like-minded new friends to make.

Visit **lagunawoodsvillage.com > Amenities > Village Clubs** to browse clubs, including arts and crafts, cultural, dance, games, health and wellness, performing arts, political, religious and spiritual, science and tech, sports and fitness, support groups and more.

PERSONAL TRAINERS WORK WITH YOU

Get in a good workout led by a personal trainer at the Community Fitness Center or Clubhouse 1 Fitness Center. Five 30-minute sessions cost $200; 10 30-minute sessions cost $400. Call the Community Fitness Center at 949-268-2275 or Clubhouse 1 Fitness Center at 949-597-4284 for more information.

EQUESTRIAN CENTER

Our charming and unique equestrian facility offers boarding for resident-owned/lesson horses and a riding program for residents and their sponsored guests. In addition, riders and non-riders alike enjoy various events at our facility, including summer barbecues, the Taste of Country, Easter at the Equestrian Center and horse shows.

LOCATION

24312 El Toro Road
Laguna Woods, CA 92637
949-597-4275

HOURS

Business hours: Wednesday through Sunday from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m.
Tour hours: Wednesday and Thursday at 2 p.m.; Friday, Saturday and Sunday at 12:30 and 2 p.m.
Riding program: Wednesday through Sunday; contact the Equestrian Center office for lesson schedules.
Tours and riding program are closed Monday and Tuesday.

HORSEMANSHIP CLASSES

Horsemanship classes at the Equestrian Center are all about developing the horse-man relationship. Horsemanship is a journey rather than a destination.

In these group classes, staff combines lectures, handouts, herd observation and hands-on education in the care of and communication with horses. It's a great opportunity for those who would like to someday own a horse or for those who just want to learn how to work with horses.

Six-session drop-in classes are offered Sunday at 12:30 p.m.

Those who graduate Level 1 are invited to join Level 2. Call or drop by the Equestrian Center for more information.

SPONSOR A GRF HORSE

The Equestrian Center is one of the happiest places in the Village—thanks to its many wonderful horses. Let's work together to keep that joy alive—please consider sponsoring a GRF horse!

Sponsorship Benefits

- You and your sponsored horse will be thanked in the equestrian newsletter.
- A special sign on the horse's stall door sporting the horse's and sponsor's names: "Sebastian is generously sponsored by Jane Smith."
- Receive an 8-by-10-inch color photo of your sponsored horse.
- Visit your special horse once a month to pet and take pictures during business hours.

Sponsorship Rules

- Handling, grooming or riding are not permitted.
- Giving food or treats may not be given without staff approval.
- Horses must remain in their stalls/paddocks.
- Staff must supervise visits.

Sponsorship Rates Per Horse

- $650 monthly
- $3,500 six months
- $6,500 yearly

Sponsorship includes a percentage of the total board, feed and farrier costs for the care and maintenance of a GRF horse.

We truly are grateful for the generosity of those who sponsor our GRF horses. Please contact the equestrian supervisor for details on sponsorship.

Call **949-597-4275** for more information.

ONGOING CLASSES

Schedules subject to change without notice.

MONDAY

Chi Kung
Clubhouse 1 patio, 8 to 9:30 a.m.
Free drop-in class

Laughter Yoga with Cheryl Russell
Clubhouse 6 ballroom, 9:15 to 10:15 a.m.
Free drop-in class

Zumba Gold with Tracy Murray
Clubhouse 2 ballroom, 10 to 11 a.m.
$25 for five classes

Ballroom Dance with Candi Davis
Clubhouse 1 ballroom, 11 a.m. to noon.
$35 for five group lessons

Belly Dance with Tahia
Performing Arts Center rehearsal room,
11:15 a.m. beginners, 12:15 p.m. intermediate
$35 for five group lessons

Mat Yoga with Jerry Bloch
Clubhouse 2 ballroom, 11:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.
Free drop-in class

Polynesian and Hula Dance with Laura DeGuire
Clubhouse 5 fitness room, 1 to 2:30 p.m.
Free drop-in class

Chair Yoga with PoChan
Clubhouse 2 ballroom, 1:15 to 2:15 p.m.
Free drop-in class

Cycling with Alisha Sullivan
Clubhouse 5 fitness room, 5 to 6 p.m.
$40 per eight-class session

Lengthen and Strengthen with Sheryl Leicher
Clubhouse 5 fitness room, 7 to 8:15 p.m.
Free drop-in class

TUESDAY

Yoga with Kim Min
Clubhouse 1 ballroom 8:30 to 9:45 a.m.
Free drop-in class

Tai Chi
Clubhouse 7 ballroom, 8:30 to 9:30 a.m.
Free drop-in class

Cycling with Alisha Sullivan
Clubhouse 5 fitness room, 8:30 to 9:30 a.m.
and 10 to 11 a.m.
$40 per eight-class session

Clogging with Kathy Wu
Performing Arts Center rehearsal room,
9 to 10 a.m.
Free drop-in class

Chair Strength and Balance with Janet Gilliam
Clubhouse 1 gym, 9:50 to 10:50 a.m.
$15 for five classes

Swim Clinic with Jan Levinrad
Pool 2, noon to 1 p.m. and 1 to 2 p.m.
Free drop-in class

Self-Defense with Sensei Ron Murray
Clubhouse 5 fitness room, 2 to 3 p.m.
$25 for five classes

IKTA Kickboxing and Karate with Sensei Ron
Clubhouse 5 fitness room, 3:30 to 4:30 p.m.
$25 for five classes

Drum Circle
Performing Arts Center, 5:15 to 6:45 p.m.
Free drop-in class

WEDNESDAY

Chi Kung
Clubhouse 1 patio, 8 to 9 a.m.
Free drop-in class

Zumba Gold with Tracy Murray
Clubhouse 5 ballroom, 9 to 10 a.m.
$25 for five classes

Cycling with Alisha Sullivan
Clubhouse 5 fitness room, 9 to 10 a.m.
$40 per eight-class session

Mindful Movement Yoga with Jerry Bloch
Performing Arts Center dining room, noon to 1 p.m.
Free drop-in class

Russian Language Class with Janet Preissler
Clubhouse 2 Grevillea Room, 3 to 5 p.m.
Free drop-in class

IKTA Kickboxing and Karate with Sensei Ron
Clubhouse 5 fitness room, 3 to 4 p.m.
$25 for five classes

Vitality in Motion Yoga
Clubhouse 5 fitness room, 5 to 6 p.m.
$25 for five classes

THURSDAY

Cycling with Alisha Sullivan
Clubhouse 5 fitness room, 7 to 8 a.m.
and 8:30 to 9:30 a.m.
$40 per eight-class session

Tai Chi and Chi Kung
Clubhouse 1, multipurpose room, 8 to 9:20 a.m.
Free drop-in class

Chi Kung
Clubhouse 2 ballroom, 8 to 9 a.m.
Free drop-in class

Tai Chi
Clubhouse 7 ballroom, 8:30 to 10 a.m.
Free drop-in class

Latin Line Dance with Rebeca Gilad
Clubhouse 1 ballroom, 9:30 to 11 a.m.
Free drop-in class

Chair Strength and Balance with Janet Gilliam
Clubhouse 1 gym, 9:50 to 10:50 a.m.
$15 for five classes

Tap Dance and Rhythms with Laura Fremont
Clubhouse 5 fitness room, 10:30 to 11:20 a.m.
$25 for five classes

Jazz and Ballet Mix-It-Up with Laura Fremont
Clubhouse 5 fitness room, 11:30 a.m. to 12:20 p.m.
$25 for five classes

Mat Yoga with Zahir Movius
Clubhouse 2 ballroom, 11:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.
Free drop-in class

Polynesian and Hula Dance with Laura DeGuire
Clubhouse 5 fitness room, 1 to 2:30 p.m.
Free drop-in class

Chair Yoga with PoChan
Clubhouse 2 ballroom, 1:15 to 2:15 p.m.
Free drop-in class

Spanish Class with Walter Valencia
Performing Arts Center dining room, 1 to 3 p.m.
Email **kevinvalencia@verizon.net** to register

Vinyasa Yoga with Suzanne Curtis
Clubhouse 2 ballroom, 3 to 4 p.m.
Free drop-in class

IKTA Kickboxing and Karate with Sensei Ron
Clubhouse 5 fitness room, 3:30 to 4:30 p.m.
$25 for five classes

Meridian Yoga
Performing Arts Center dining room 2,
5:30 to 6:45 p.m.
Free drop-in class

FRIDAY

Cycling with Alisha Sullivan
Clubhouse 5 fitness room, 7 to 8 a.m.
$40 per eight-class session

Chi Kung
Clubhouse 1 patio, 8 to 9 a.m.
Free drop-in class

Zumba Toning with Tracy Murray
Clubhouse 2 ballroom, 9 to 10 a.m.
$25 for five classes

Yoga with Kim Min
Clubhouse 7 ballroom, 9:30 to 10:45 a.m.
Free drop-in class

Ballroom Dance with Ed VanOrnum
Clubhouse 1 ballroom, 9:30 to 11:30 a.m.
$35 for five classes

Israeli Dance with Rebeca Gilad
Clubhouse 2 Sequoia ballroom,
10:30 to 11:30 a.m. beginners,
11:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. intermediate
Free drop-in class

Yoga with Zahir Movius
Clubhouse 5 fitness room, 1 to 2:15 p.m.
Free drop-in class

Circle of Love Meditation with Zahir Movius
Clubhouse 5 fitness room, 2:30 to 4 p.m.
Free drop-in class

Lengthen and Strengthen with Sheryl Leicher
Clubhouse 5 fitness room, 4:15 to 5:30 p.m.
Free drop-in class

SATURDAY

Tai Chi and Chi Kung
Clubhouse 1 multipurpose room, 8 to 9:30 a.m.
Free drop-in class

Line Dance
Clubhouse 5 fitness room, 2 to 3 p.m.
Free drop-in class

Disco Dance
Clubhouse 5 fitness room, 3 to 4 p.m.
Free drop-in class

AMENITY INFO

Schedules subject to change without notice.

Clubhouse Reservations | 949-597-4227
Schedule reservations for Clubhouses 1, 2, 5, 6 or 7; the Village Greens; the Performing Arts Center; or the Community Center at the recreation office, Monday through Friday, 8 a.m. to 5 p.m.

- Reservations may be scheduled through December 31, 2026.

Clubhouse 1 | 949-597-4281

- Open daily 8 a.m. to 10 p.m.
- Fitness center open Monday, Wednesday, Friday 7 a.m. to 7 p.m., Tuesday, Thursday 7 a.m. to 5 p.m., Saturday, Sunday 8 a.m. to 2 p.m.
- Indoor mini-gym (badminton, pickleball, volleyball, basketball)
- Archery
- Shuffleboard
- Bocce
- Billiards
- Game room
- Drop-in lounge

Clubhouse 2 | 949-597-4285

- Open Monday through Friday 8 a.m. to 5 p.m., with extended hours to accommodate reservations; weekend hours vary based on reservations
- Video lab and studio, card room, lawn bowling

Clubhouse 4 | 949-597-4344

- Open daily from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m., except Tuesday and Thursday which have extended hours until 8 p.m. Closed on all major holidays.
- Contact the clubhouse for specific studio hours. All studios open only when a volunteer supervisor is present: art studio, ceramics, glass studio, jewelry, lapidary, photo studio, quilting, sewing room, slipcasting, woodshop, machine shop

Clubhouse 5 | 949-597-4382

- Open daily 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. and extended hours to accommodate reservations
- Game room
- Fitness center open daily 5:30 a.m. to 9 p.m.

Clubhouse 6 | 949-597-4437

- Open by reservation only
- Reservations Monday through Friday 8 a.m. to 10 p.m.

Clubhouse 7 | 949-268-2417

- Open daily 8 a.m. to 5 p.m., Monday through Friday 10:30 a.m. to 6:30 p.m., with extended hours to accommodate reservations; weekend hours vary based on reservations
- Bridge games Monday through Friday from 12:30 to 4 p.m.
- Bridge class schedule varies

Community Center | 949-597-4273

- Concierge, Resident Services Monday through Friday from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m.
- Table tennis: Monday through Friday from 8 a.m. to 9 p.m.; Saturday, Sunday from noon to 5 p.m.
- Mac learning center: Monday through Friday from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m.; **949-268-2263**
- PC workshop: Monday through Friday from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.; **949-268-2262**
- Community fitness center Monday through Friday from 7 a.m. to 7 p.m.; Saturday and Sunday from 8 a.m. to 2 p.m.

Equestrian Center | 949-597-4275

- Business hours Wednesday through Sunday 9 a.m. to 3 p.m.
- Tours Wednesday and Thursday 2 p.m.; Friday through Sunday 12:30 and 2 p.m.
- Call to inquire about riding program.

Garden Centers | 949-268-2387
- Daily sunrise to sunset
- Call **949-268-2387** to schedule a tour.
- Website: **bit.ly/4elZ83E**

Golf | 949-597-4336
- 27-hole course open daily 7 a.m. to 6 p.m.
  - o Online reservations only; see pro shop to create account.
- Driving range open 7 a.m. to 3:30 p.m.
- Par 3 course open 7:30 a.m. to 5:30 p.m.
- Call the course condition hotline at **949-597-4373** for course updates.

History Center | 949-206-0150
- Open Monday through Friday from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. or by appointment

Lawn Bowling | 949-951-3027
- Open daily 7 a.m. to 7 p.m.
- Morning social games Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday and Saturday at 10 a.m. (October-June) and 9 a.m. (July-September)
- Afternoon social games Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday at noon
- Evening social games Sunday, Monday and Wednesday at 3 p.m. (November-February), 4 p.m. (March-May and October) and 5 p.m. (June-September)
- Competitive game Friday at 9 a.m.
- Free lessons for residents and their guests Tuesdays at 3:30 p.m. (September-March), 5:30 p.m. (April-August) and Saturdays at 8:45 a.m. or by appointment
- Website: **lwlbc.org**

Library | 949-597-4274
- Open Monday through Friday from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m., Saturday from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m.

Paddle Tennis | 949-597-4273
- Daily 7 a.m. to 10 p.m.
- Tuesday, Thursday priority 7 a.m. to noon
- First, third Saturday priority 7 a.m. to noon

Performing Arts Center | 949-597-4289
- Open daily from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m., with extended hours to accommodate reservations
- Box office open Monday through Friday from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m.; **949-597-4288**
- Auditorium open for scheduled shows; dates and times vary
- Schedule reservations for the Performing Arts Center (PAC) auditorium with the PAC supervisor.

Pickleball | 949-597-4273
- Daily 7 a.m. to 10 p.m.
- Monday, Wednesday, Friday mornings priority 7 a.m. to noon; second, fourth Saturday priority 7 a.m. to noon

Pools | 949-597-4273
- Check the most current pool schedule at **bit.ly/4l8PdAX**.

Recreation Coordinated Classes | 949-597-4273
- Class schedule: **bit.ly/4fJhjRa**
- ActiveNet portal: **bit.ly/3eKhxts**
- ActiveNet tutorial video: **bit.ly/2UDQmJF**

Shuffleboard | 216-905-7051
- Open daily 8 a.m. to 10 p.m.
- Club play: Mondays at 9:30 a.m., Tuesdays at 9:30 a.m. and 3 p.m., Thursdays at 5:30 p.m., Fridays at 1 p.m.
- Website: **bit.ly/4jDyO5Y**

Tennis | 949-268-2481
- Daily 7 a.m. to 10 p.m.
- No reservations required for courts 1 to 7, 7 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.
- Court Reserve reservations required for courts 8 to 10, 7 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.
- Court Reserve reservations required for courts 6 and 7, 4:30 to 9 p.m. (lighted)
- For CourtReserve reservations, visit **bit.ly/4hl3bNS**.

Saddleback Emeritus | 949-582-4835
- Visit **saddleback.edu/emeritus** for class schedule.

GRF Board of Directors

The Golden Rain Foundation of Laguna Woods Board of Directors meets the first Tuesday of each month at 9:30 a.m.

Cush Bhada
President
2023-2026

Jeanne Costello
First Vice President
2025-2028

Martin Roza
Second Vice President
2024-2027

Carmen Pacella
Secretary
2025-2028

Jim Nadeau
Treasurer
2024-2026

Bunny Carpenter
2025-2026

Mickie Choi Hoe
2025-2027

John Cornell
2025-2026

Yvonne Horton
2025-2028

John Kelsall
2025-2028

Brad Rinehart
2024-2027

HUMAN **POWER**

Understanding the role of the GRF board and how residents govern Laguna Woods Village

By Secretary Carmen Pacella

Have you ever wondered how major decisions are made in our Village, from budgets and policies to long-term priorities? Laguna Woods Village is a resident-governed community, and the Golden Rain Foundation of Laguna Woods board of directors plays a central role in shaping the quality of life residents enjoy. GRF is responsible for maintaining common areas, clubhouses, swimming pools, roads, security, communications and recreational facilities.

The GRF board is made up of 11 volunteer resident directors. Directors from United Mutual, Third Mutual and Mutual No. Fifty are elected by their respective memberships, while GRF directors are elected by each mutual's board. This structure ensures all residents are represented in the governance of the Village.

COMMITTEE GOVERNED

In addition to their board responsibilities, directors serve on multiple committees that oversee nearly every operational, financial and strategic aspect of our community. Committees do the detailed

COMMITTEE	CORE RESPONSIBILITIES
Broadband Committee	Provides oversight of television, internet and broadband services across the Village.
Community Activities Committee	Oversees recreation, club operations, room reservations and entertainment programming that enrich daily life in the Village.
Disaster Preparedness Task Force	Plans and prepares for emergencies such as earthquakes, fires, floods and other large-scale events.
El Toro Water District Liaison	Monitors water usage, conservation efforts and district coordination affecting the Village.
Energy Ad Hoc Committee	Reviews Village energy usage and explores strategies for efficiency and cost management.
Executive Hearings Committee	Hears and addresses compliance violations that occurred at GRF facilities.
Finance Committee	Reviews budgets, financial statements, reserves and long-term financial planning to help ensure fiscal stability.
Information Technology Advisory Committee	Guides technology infrastructure, systems and services that support Village operations and resident communication.
Laguna Woods Traffic Hearings	Hears and rules on traffic violations and related resident appeals.
Landscape Committee	Oversees tree maintenance, irrigation, turf and overall common area landscaping throughout the community.
Land Use Ad Hoc Committee	Reviews highest and best use of unimproved land for future revenue.
Maintenance and Construction Committee	Reviews building systems and infrastructure including roofing, plumbing, HVAC, electrical and major repairs.
Mobility and Vehicles Committee	Supervises transportation services including buses, vans, fleet vehicles and resident mobility support.
Seurity and Community Access Committee	Focuses on gate operations, access control and community safety.
Select Audit Task Force	Reviews Village spending and financial controls to ensure accountability and transparency.
Space Planning Ad Hoc Committee	Evaluates and recommends allocation of space for staff programs and community use.

work, such as studying issues, evaluating options and making recommendations so the board can make informed, responsible decisions on behalf of all residents.

The chart on this page shows the GRF committees and their core responsibilities. Together, these committees form the backbone of our resident-driven governance system.

RESIDENT GOVERNED

Laguna Woods Village runs on human power—the time, experience and dedication of residents who step forward to serve. Our boards and committees depend on resident participation to remain strong, well-managed and financially sound. With more than 18,600 residents, we should never be short of willing hands and capable minds, but the reality is that we need more volunteers.

Serving on a board or committee is one of the most meaningful ways you can contribute to the community. Whether your background is in business, finance, technology, construction, management, customer service, healthcare or simply caring about your neighbors, your skills are valuable here.

This is your community. These are your assets. This is your voice.

We invite you to get involved. Volunteer. Run. Serve. Help keep Laguna Woods Village the thriving, resident-governed community we all cherish.

UNITED LAGUNA WOODS
MUTUAL

United Board of Directors

The United Laguna Woods Mutual Board of Directors meets the second Tuesday of each month at 9:30 a.m.

Charles Prater
President
2024-2027

Sue Quam
First Vice President
2023-2026

Anthony Liberatore
Second Vice President
2025-2028

Maggie Blackwell
Secretary
2024-2027

Mourad Akesbi
Treasurer
2025-2027

Elsie Addington
2025-2026

Johnathan Boostani
2025-2027

Kathryn Bravata
2025-2028

Wendy Kirchick
2025-2028

ALLIES IN FIRE PROTECTION

How we work on many fronts to keep the Village safe

By First Vice President Sue Ellen Quam

Photos by Mark Rabinowitch

Winter rain brings beautiful green lawns and hillsides with much-needed water. Enjoy our lush hillsides and landscapes featuring our beautiful green wonderland.

Later, when winds and summer's high heat dries out this vegetation, it can become fodder for possible fires if we don't manage it.

The VMS Department of Landscaping Services staff and its contractor thoroughly groom the Aliso Creek area three times a year. GRF pays for these services negotiated with the California Department of Fish and Wildlife (CDFW).

As Southern California residents, we are all concerned about fire safety. Past wildfires prompted United Mutual members to inquire about efforts to protect the community from fire hazards. While natural disasters can't be prevented, we collaborate with allies to assist us in such events. The Augurisk Wildfire Hazard index, which assesses

the potential for wildfires at the U.S. Census block level, reported that United Laguna Woods has a low wildfire risk. While that is comforting news, that doesn't negate our responsibility to mitigate that risk.

OUR WATER

Laguna Woods Village receives its water from the El Toro Water District (ETWD), which has developed detailed emergency response plans over the past 20 years. The district collaborates extensively with other water districts to ensure additional water can be supplied to the ETWD system in cases of emergency.

ETWD staff and volunteers participate in mock emergency response training to ensure preparedness for a variety of emergency scenarios. Backup generators are routinely tested, as is the functionality of fire hydrants. Their staff members receive thorough training in emergency readiness and maintain comprehensive response plans. ETWD acknowledges the critical importance of reliable water systems during fire emergencies. As part of their response plans, they acquire additional equipment, inspect current equipment and pump stations, and assess vulnerabilities to ensure these are addressed effectively.

A NEW FIRE STATION

The City of Laguna Woods is working with the Orange County Fire Authority (OCFA) on a long-term lease of approximately 0.32 acres of the 0.56-acre City Centre Park property (24121 Moulton Parkway, Laguna Woods, CA 92637) for use as a new OCFA fire station. OCFA plans to build a new Fire Station 12 near Moulton Parkway and El Toro Road. The City of Laguna Woods and OCFA reached an agreement early in 2026 to begin negotiations for construction.

The new fire station would operate in addition to the existing Laguna Woods fire station on Paseo de Valencia. The city council approved the ground lease agreement with the Orange County Fire Authority (OCFA) during its regular city council meeting on December 17, 2025.

Two fire stations surrounding our village would allow for nearly instant deployment to our retirement community for emergency services.

The nearest existing fire station is on Paseo De Valencia, enabling quick response times. OCFA Operations Division 5 serves Laguna Woods, Aliso Viejo, Laguna Hills, Laguna Niguel and Lake Forest with stations ready to respond.

Southern California firefighters work closely with the El Toro Water District and other responders and are skilled and efficient in their duties. For over 60 years, Laguna Woods Village has experienced few house fires and no wildfires.

> "OCFA will not mandate the removal of any living trees; well-maintained, mature and watered trees can actually provide ember protection in the event of a wildfire."—*Orange County Fire Authority*

LANDSCAPING SERVICES

The VMS Department of Landscaping Services collaborates with OCFA to address landscaping concerns and maintain standards. The Village landscape passes annual OCFA inspections and meets fire mitigation recommendations. Although several members have expressed concerns over trees in proximity to their residences, OCFA responded: "OCFA will not mandate the removal of any living trees; well-maintained, mature and watered trees

can actually provide ember protection in the event of a wildfire."

"We can only enforce vertical separation of trees from the ground or vegetation underneath to prevent a ground fire from climbing into a tree," said Field Operations Director Kurt Wiemann.

PROPERTY INSURANCE COVERAGE, RISK AND COST

Laguna Woods Village uses the services of major brokerage firms to help secure and place property insurance in the community. Part of the services they provide involves assessing our risk and recommending appropriate coverage limits.

Insurance costs are rising, with companies paying large sums to rebuild after natural disasters. We need reliable brokers for this essential purchase. United pays about $3 million annually for coverage up to $225 million per occurrence, with multiple occurrences covered if needed. Our community has never faced such events, but we must pay this amount to protect the Village. Each year the property insurance coverage is renewed, and premiums may increase based on market conditions which would impact HOA monthly charges.

PURCHASE HO-6 INSURANCE

We recommend obtaining a condominium owners (HO-6) insurance policy, as your personal property, additions and alterations are not covered by United cooperative insurance.

Members are responsible for damage to mutual property caused by the members' misuse or neglect, by additions or alterations, or by guests or lessees. If the damage is your responsibility, United Mutual can charge you for the repairs. If the repair costs exceed the deductible on the mutual's insurance, currently $100,000, a claim will be submitted to the mutual's property insurer. HO-6 insurance can help you avoid paying these costs out of pocket. Consult with your agent about your insurer's practices and increasing your policy limits accordingly.

WORKING TO KEEP US SAFE

Stay diligent and responsible to reduce fire risk. Report any maintenance or landscaping concerns to Resident Services. Immediately call 9-1-1 for emergencies. If advised by emergency personnel, evacuate immediately.

Ensuring the safety of residents and structures is an important community responsibility. Working with our allies who assist us in such events can help maintain security.

Landscaping Services Department staff and its contractor thoroughly groom the Aliso Creek area three times a year.

Garden Villa Association Board of Directors

The Garden Villa Association Board of Directors meets the fourth Thursday of even-numbered months at 4 p.m. General membership meetings are on the second Thursday of odd-numbered months at 10 a.m.

Stuart Hack
President, Region 2 Rep

Ro Kendall
Vice President, Region 3 Rep

Leah Kushman
Secretary, Region 4 Rep

Sheldon Mende
Treasurer, Region 7 Rep

Tom Stacy
Communications Director

Gail Berra
Region 1 Rep

Theresa Keegan
Jim Southworth
Region 6 Co-Reps

Laurie Bereny
Regions 8 & 9 Rep

Joe Camera
Ad Hoc Building Captain

OUR SOLE PURPOSE

How the GVA represents the interests of three-story building residents

By President Stuart Hack

Attend a Third Mutual board or committee meeting and the importance of the Garden Villa Association becomes clear. GVA exists to represent the interests and needs of residents living in three-story buildings.

Many proposed resolutions before Third Mutual directly affect three-story manor residents. GVA monitors proposed rule changes at the committee level and provides input on how those changes may impact our members. When items advance to the Third Mutual board, GVA continues to advocate on behalf of three-story residents for board consideration.

Before officers take formal positions, issues are discussed at open GVA board meetings. This process allows member input and a vote by the GVA board, which is composed of regional representatives who also serve as building captains, along with up to two elected building captains.

GVA also proposes rule changes to appropriate Third Mutual committees and participates in open budget meetings to ensure funding remains available for approved three-story-related projects and services. When needed, GVA advocates for additional funding to support projects that benefit our members.

While GVA represents three-story manor residents, our work considers the broader needs of the entire Village. We are part of a shared community, and our requests are made with the overall good of the Village in mind.

Three-story manor residents are encouraged to share input and attend GVA bi-monthly general membership and board meetings. For more information, visit **gardenvilla.club** or email **agardenvilla@gmail.com**.

THIRD LAGUNA HILLS
MUTUAL

Third Board of Directors

The Third Laguna Hills Mutual Board of Directors meets the third Tuesday of each month at 9:30 a.m.

Robert Mutchnick
President
2024-2027

Reza Karimi
First Vice President
2025-2028

Donna Rane-Szostak
Second Vice President
2024-2026

Ruth Johnson
Secretary
2024-2027

Howard Fox
Treasurer
2024-2026

James Hopkins
2025-2026

Peggy Moore
2025-2028

S.K. Park
2025-2028

Steve Parsons
2025-2028

Craig Wayne
2024-2027

Moon G. Yun, M.D.
2023-2026

INSURANCE EXPLAINED

What the mutual covers and what your condominium owners (HO-6) policy needs to cover

By Risk Manager Dan Yost and President Robert Mutchnick

After speaking with many Third Mutual members, it has become clear that there is confusion about what property insurance is maintained by Third Mutual and what individual condo owners must cover through an HO-6 policy.

WHAT THIRD MUTUAL MAINTAINS

Third Mutual currently maintains $275 million in property insurance, excluding earthquake, landslide and similar perils. This coverage is shared in part with United Mutual. Third and United jointly insure the first $225 million, with Third securing an additional $50 million on its own.

A common question is why the mutual carries $275 million in coverage when the total value of Third Mutual's condominiums is significantly higher. The answer lies in probable maximum loss, or PML. PML is determined through independent risk modeling and estimates the maximum loss likely to occur in a single event. For Third Mutual, the current wildfire PML aligns with the $275 million coverage level, meaning the mutual is considered adequately insured based on that modeling.

This property insurance carries a $100,000 deductible per occurrence and is intended to cover the cost of rebuilding a manor. If a fire damages one or more condominiums, whether partially or fully, the

mutual will rebuild the structure to its original design. Any square footage added beyond the original plans is the responsibility of the owner to rebuild.

If damage or destruction is caused by an owner or tenant, the owner is responsible for reimbursing the mutual for the deductible paid toward rebuilding. This is one area where an HO-6 policy can provide important protection.

In addition to property insurance, Third Mutual maintains the following policies:

- **Commercial general liability:** $1 million per occurrence, $2 million aggregate, $25,000 deductible
- **Crime/fidelity insurance:** $31.5 million for employee theft, computer and fund transfer fraud; $50,000 deductible
- **Earthquake insurance:** $10 million, deductible equal to 5% of building value with a $100,000 minimum

WHAT YOUR HO-6 POLICY SHOULD COVER

A common question is what you, as an owner, are responsible for insuring. While an HO-6 policy is optional, it is strongly recommended.

If damage originates from your unit or from an alteration you made, you may be fully responsible for repairs to other units and to mutual property. For example, there have been recent cases in which an altered ice maker line leaked into the unit below. The leak went undetected until the ceiling in the lower unit collapsed. In one instance, repairs to mutual property affecting two condominiums exceeded $14,000. The owner of the unit where the leak originated was also responsible for damage to the personal property in the unit below. An HO-6 policy provides critical protection in situations like these.

When purchasing an HO-6 policy, owners should discuss with their insurance agent the appropriate coverage limits, deductible and the amount of special assessment and loss of use coverage needed.

- **Special assessment coverage** helps protect you if the mutual ever requires a special assessment. While no special assessment has occurred in the history of Third Mutual, that does not guarantee one will not be needed in the future.
- **Loss of use coverage** is important if your manor becomes uninhabitable and you must temporarily relocate. This coverage helps pay for the cost of alternative housing.

WHO IS RESPONSIBLE?

When you purchased your condominium, you assumed full responsibility for any alterations made to the unit, whether completed by you or by a prior owner. Owners should review these alterations with their insurance agent to determine the level of coverage needed to rebuild the unit to its pre-loss condition.

We hope this overview clarifies the respective responsibilities of the mutual and individual owners. This article is not all-inclusive, and owners are encouraged to consult their insurance agent to fully understand their responsibilities and ensure appropriate coverage.

MUTUAL	OWNER
Everything from the paint and texture on the drywall out: • Stucco walls • Original pipes in the walls • Roof	Everything from the paint in, including: • All appliances • Flooring • Cabinets • Water heater • Light fixtures • HVAC systems • Any additional rooms or increased square footage

VMS Board of Directors

Cynthia Rupert
Chair
United, 2023-2026

Juanita Skillman
First Vice Chair
GRF, 2025-2028

Jim Glassman
Second Vice Chair
Third, 2024-2026

Jeffrey Beck
GRF, 2025-2026

Mark Laws
GRF, 2024-2027

Gloria Moldow
Third, 2025-2028

Dorothy Pacella
United, 2026-2028

Manny Robledo
United, 2024-2027

Candace Tysdal
Third, 2024-2027

WELCOME ABOARD!

The Third and United boards appoint two new VMS board directors.

By Director Candace Tysdal

GLORIA MOLDOW

The Third Mutual board of directors appointed Gloria Moldow in December to serve a three-year term on the VMS board of directors.

Moldow has lived in Laguna Woods Village for 16 years and has been actively involved as both a participant and a volunteer in numerous clubs. She has also served as an advisor to GRF's Mobility and Vehicles Committee and, for many years, as an advisor to her husband, Bert Moldow, during his service on both the Third Mutual and GRF boards.

Gloria Moldow holds a Ph.D. in American studies and, prior to retiring, built a career in higher education as an academic dean at Iona University and an associate dean of the graduate school.

Recognizing that the costs of electricity, water, insurance and salaries have risen dramatically since she moved to Laguna Woods Village, Moldow wants to focus on the VMS workforce. Her priorities include recruiting and training employees, ensuring staff have the tools they need to succeed and retaining excellent employees.

"We are all in this together—the boards, our employees and our residents," Moldow said. Her goal is to help make Laguna Woods Village "the most sought-after community in Orange County and beyond, not only for prospective buyers, but for new employees as well."

DOROTHY PACELLA

The United Mutual board of directors appointed Dorothy Pacella in January 2026 to serve a three-year term on the VMS board of

directors. Pacella has lived in Laguna Woods Village for eight years with her husband, Carmen Pacella. Originally, she was active in numerous clubs, including the Chicago Club and the Laguna Woods Foundation. In addition, she was a VMS part-time staff member supporting docent bus tours and new resident orientations. Currently, she is a trustee on the History Center board and a volunteer teaching the Village Living program for prospective, new and existing residents.

Dorothy Pacella's 45-year professional career in retail management at billion-dollar companies crossed numerous departments with customer service as the driving force.

Pacella is excited to support the VMS team in their drive to provide the best resident service and reach financial goals, and to inspire the team to look for best practices for process improvements.

Mutual No. Fifty Board of Directors

Earl Adamy
President
2025-2026

John Luebbe
Vice President
2025-2026

Margaret Bennett
Secretary
2025-2026

Jim Steinhagen
Treasurer
2026-2028

Cindy Lillibridge
Director at Large
2026-2028

THE SIMPLE LIFE

The Towers can contribute to the lifestyle of your dreams.

For some Towers residents, senior living was always part of the plan. For others, like author and avid hiker Linda Breen Pierce, it came as an unexpected surprise.

"I never thought I'd move into a senior community," Linda said. "But here I am, happily ensconced in the Towers."

One of the greatest strengths of life at the Towers is how easily it adapts to individual needs, through amenities, services and a welcoming community. At the Towers, you are the main character in your retirement story.

AN UNEXPECTED MOVE

Linda and her husband previously lived in a two-bedroom condominium in the Village. Wanting to plan ahead, they purchased a one-bedroom unit at the Towers as a backup plan. "We intended to rent it out for the foreseeable future," Linda said, "knowing I could choose to move there after my husband's death." He had cancer and was expected to predecease her.

He passed away sooner than anticipated, just five days before their Towers unit closed. Linda took the timing as a sign and moved in immediately.

Linda Breen Pierce hiked Spain's Camino de Santiago.

Right: a view from Linda's Towers home; below: preparing for a hiking trip

A FINANCIALLY WISE DECISION

For Linda, the move to the Towers was largely driven by finances. "The Towers offers one of the best housing deals in California," she said. She purchased her 625-square-foot one-bedroom condominium for $45,000, which she says is plenty of space.

She also appreciates the simplicity of predictable monthly costs. Her fee includes biweekly housekeeping, utilities, maintenance, access to Village amenities and meal points that cover daily lunch and dinner. There is no need to budget for fluctuating grocery bills, rising utility costs or the hassle of hiring and managing housekeepers. "It's simple and easy," Linda said, "just how I like it."

Linda has long pursued a simpler way of living, even writing a book on the subject 25 years ago. Her home at the Towers aligns perfectly with that philosophy, giving her the freedom to focus on what matters most to her.

TRAVELING THE WORLD

That freedom has allowed Linda to pursue her passions for travel and long-distance hiking. With low housing costs and a predictable budget, she spent three months hiking in Europe in 2025, including Ireland's Wicklow Way and Spain's 500-mile Camino de Santiago.

"Long-distance hiking is my passion, and I can only afford it because my housing is relatively inexpensive," she said.

When she returns home, her Towers residence is ready and waiting. "For years, I fantasized about living in a hotel with a concierge at my fingertips when I was older," she said. "Surprise, surprise, I've got it."

The Towers offers convenient services, shared spaces and comfortable amenities, from a cozy jigsaw puzzle room with a fireplace to inviting outdoor patios. Linda's own condominium features floor-to-ceiling windows with views of trees and hills, a welcome perk for a nature lover. She also appreciates the quiet and the added sense of security when she is away traveling.

IT'S WHAT YOU WANT IT TO BE

For some residents, life at the Towers means social events and committee involvement. For others, it is something quieter and more personal.

"I'm mostly a homebody when I'm not hiking," Linda said. "There's no pressure to socialize if you don't feel like it. You can dine on your own or with others."

Linda maintains an active social life through her hiking community but values the absence of obligation. She enjoys choosing when and how to engage, shaping a lifestyle that feels comfortable, simple and entirely her own.

If you are ready to enjoy a lifestyle that is truly yours at the Towers, contact your local realtor.

THEN AND NOW

A SCULPTOR IS BORN

Like many Village artists, David Bialobroda did not discover his artistic gift until after he and his wife moved to Laguna Woods in 1988. As a new resident, he enrolled in a free sculpting class at Clubhouse 4.

"I would have never paid for it," he said. "I did not think I was talented."

For Bialobroda, sculpting became the fulfillment of a childhood fascination. Growing up in Poland, he spent hours watching a local tombstone carver create intricate faces and forms from stone. He peppered the craftsman with questions: How do you make a nose? How do you shape an expression?

When his hands first pressed into clay decades later, those early lessons resurfaced. The memory of the carver's guidance returned, and with it, an unexpected talent.

Bialobroda went on to become a respected sculptor whose work was exhibited internationally. Several of his pieces were later donated to the Laguna Woods History Center, where they remain on display. Before relocating to Israel in 2006, he left behind a legacy rooted in the community that first nurtured his artistic awakening.

Top left photo: Sculptor David Bialobroda (right) featured his sculpture "Poem" in the 1989 Fall Art Show. Standing from his right are show organizers Rae Snow, Mervin Cooper and Belvia Britton.

The Laguna Woods History Center, a 501(c)(3) nonprofit that receives no assessment funding, is located next to the Village Library. Visit weekdays from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. and by appointment (call 949-206-0150). Visit the website at lagunawoodshistory.org.

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Meet Our Providers

Jeff Angarola, DPM
Podiatry

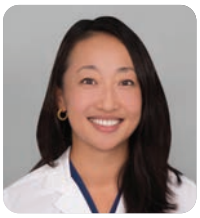
Kien-An Duong, M.D.
Internal Medicine
Primary Care

Sunghee Kim, NP
Nurse Practitioner
Primary Care

Talar Moy, NP
Nurse Practitioner
Primary Care

Hitesh Patel, M.D.
Neurology

Manish Prasad Shrestha, M.D.
Gastroenterology



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