July 2025

Oakwood Village

Oakwood Village Assisted Living & Memory Care| 388 Bell Rd. Auburn, CA 95603 | (530) 889-8122 | RCFE# 317000237



Kiwi Christmas Magic

New Zealand's Festival of Christmas brings a unique twist to holiday celebrations, transforming the small town of Greytown into a winter wonderland each July. This monthlong extravaganza, aptly nicknamed the "happiest festival in New Zealand," offers a delightful blend of festive cheer and ingenuity.

Although it began only five years ago as a pandemic initiative, the Festival of Christmas has quickly become a beloved tradition, drawing visitors from across the country. The event's timing in July, which is winter in the southern hemisphere, allows New Zealanders to experience a more traditional chilly Christmas atmosphere, complete with the (unlikely) promise of snow.

The festival boasts an impressive array of activities and attractions. Visitors can marvel at spectacular light displays, participate in workshops, and celebrate the Māori New Year. The program also includes vibrant night markets, lively parties, and an abundance of festive food and drinks, including the warming winter favorites of mulled wine and gin.

One of the festival's unique features is how it embraces a "Fire and Ice" theme, creating a captivating contrast that adds to the event's charm. Attendees are encouraged to don Christmas sweaters and gather around braziers (portable outdoor firepits), fostering a cozy community atmosphere despite the winter chill.

But the Festival of Christmas isn't just about entertainment; it's a community effort that brings together families, school children, and local groups. This collaborative spirit is evident in the diverse range of events, from art classes and author talks to "Books at the Bar" reading parties.

While the festival primarily takes place in Greytown, it has put the region of Wairarapa on the map as a winter destination. The event has grown to attract people from all around New Zealand, boosting local tourism and showcasing the region's hospitality. With its unique blend of traditional Christmas elements and distinctly Kiwi touches, this midwinter celebration offers a fresh perspective on holiday festivities, proving that the Christmas spirit thrives in New Zealand, summer or winter.



Live Entertainment

7/3 Tom Boyd @ 2:30pm

7/4 Lisa Ellis @ 2:30pm

7/7 Music by Ralph @ 2:30pm

7/11 Billy B. @ 2:00pm

7/16 Collin Hobbs @ 2:00pm

7/18 Denty @ 2:00pm

7/19 Bobbi Brown @ 2:00pm

7/22 Acoustic Underground @ 2:00pm

7/25 Mike Ely @ 2:00pm

7/28 Alvin @ 2:00pm

Special Visits

7/1 Art Reveals w/ Lizzy @ 2:00pm Every <u>Monday</u> Starting @ 11:00am: Doggy Visit w/ KASEY

Shopping Trips & Outings

7/1 Safeway @ 11am

7/15 Target & Starbucks @ 11:00am

7/22 Dollar Tree & Mod Pizza

7/29 Ross: Dress for Less @ 11:00am

Scenic Bus Drive Every Wednesday @ 11am

Special Events

7/3 4th of July Party with Live Music @ 2:30pm7/4 Red, White & Blue Happy Hour @ 2:30pm

Religious Services

Every <u>Thursday</u> @ 10:00am: Rosary & Communion in the Theater Room.

RESIDENT SHOUT OUT



Penny P.

Shout-out for July goes to Penny! She's an extraordinary woman, always has a great joke on hand and spins amazing tales. Penny is the heart of Oakwood Village store where she sells only the best products. Need something? You're in luck, Penny's got you covered at the store.

However, Penny's magic doesn't stop at the store, she's also heavily involved in our activities - life at OV would frankly be dull without her.

So, if ever you're in search of a friend, head to Penny - she's a friend for life. Spread the love and appreciate her efforts! Cheers!

Talking Heads

A special announcement for all those ventriloquists out there! Cincinnati's annual ventriloquists conference, known as the Vent Haven ConVENTion, is set to take place July 16–19 at the Holiday Inn Cincinnati Airport in Erlanger, Kentucky.



The convention is named after the Vent Haven Museum in Fort Mitchell, Kentucky—just across the river from Cincinnati. Vent Haven is the only museum in the world dedicated to the art of ventriloquism. The word *vent* is short for *ventriloquist*, and the museum is certainly a haven for those in the

business. William Shakespeare Berger, known to his friends as W.S., was a Cincinnati businessman and amateur ventriloquist who amassed a vast collection of ventriloquism memorabilia. For years, Berger also served as president of the International Brotherhood of Ventriloquists. He even published a monthly magazine called *The Oracle*, which kept up on the lastest in ventriloquism news. By the time Berger died in 1973, his collection had grown museum-worthy.

Ventriloquism relies on the ability to "throw your voice." Ventriloquism first began as a religious practice, where people made guttural sounds from their bellies and interpreted those sounds as the voices of the dead. Other cultures regarded it as witchcraft. Over the centuries, though, that which had been feared became entertainment. By the 1700s, traveling showmen were delighting audiences with fanciful ventriloquy, speaking mostly to imaginary friends. Before long, ventriloquists introduced their dummies and puppets.

So how do "vents" throw their voices? When noise is trapped in a larynx, it sounds as if it's coming from a different direction or distance. Any other insights... well, those are closely held trade secrets.



Do you want to make your voice heard and stay informed about your community? Let us chat about important issues.

- Chat about any issues or concerns you may have.
- Discuss upcoming community events and activities.
- Quality of services provided.
- Feel free to share your suggestions.
- Ask questions.
- Work towards positive change within our community.

When: Wednesday June 30th

Time: 2:00pm / Where: Poppy Room



This month marks your anniversary of how long you have lived here at Gladding Ridge. Thank you for choosing us as your home.



Darryl B. 5 Years

Pat. B. 1 Year





Executive Director



Patty Uclaray

Life Enrichment Director



David Collison

Resident Care Director



Malina Meador



Destiny Moore

Maintenance Director

Business Office Manager



Housekeeping Director



Joshua Ochinero

July Birthdays

In astrology, those born July 1–22 are the Crabs of Cancer. Crabs are emotional nurturers, dedicated to their home and family. Gentle and kind, they love storytelling around the dinner table and enjoy upholding traditions. Those born July 23–31 are the Lion star sign. Leo. Leos are dignified, strong, and powerful, making good leaders and honorable friends. They are also ambitious, reaching for the stars, working hard, and accomplishing their goals.

P. T. Barnum (circus showman) – July 5, 1810 Nancy Reagan (first lady) – July 6, 1921 Michelle Kwan (figure skater) – July 7, 1980 Milton Berle (comedian) - July 12, 1908 Harrison Ford (actor) - July 13, 1942 Phyllis Diller (comedienne) – July 17, 1917 Don Knotts (actor) – July 21,1924 Gracie Allen (comedienne) – July 26, 1895 Paul Anka (singer) – July 30, 1941

The Birth of a King



On July 18, 1953, a young man named Elvis Presley walked into the Sun Records studio in Memphis. Tennessee, to make his first record. The resulting acetate disc, with just two songs-"My Happiness" and "That's When Your Heartaches

Begin"—was supposed to be a gift from Elvis to his mother. Rumor has it, though, that the Presleys did not even own a record player. And besides, his mother's birthday had long passed. Many speculate that the recording was an attempt by Elvis to get the attention of Sun Records owner Sam Phillips. Apparently, Elvis made an impression, because he was invited back to the studio a year later, on July 5, 1954. At first, the session was uninspiring. The band was about to give up when Elvis began fooling around, goofing off, and singing. That sound was exactly what Phillips was looking for, and the King of Rock 'n' Roll was born.