Autumn at Oakcreek

Oakcreek Cohousing Thu, Oct 29, 2026 at 1:11 PM

OAKCREEK
COMMUNITY

www.OakcreekStillwater.com

Autumn 2026 Newsletter



REMINDER...One home is now available!

Information about the two-bedroom one-bath home that is presently available was recently sent to everyone on our email list. The initial round of offers will be accepted by the owner through Tuesday, **November 4** by 5 pm CST**.** If you'd like more information about this home, or to be placed on the Interested List, please contact us per the information at the end of this newsletter.

Celebrating Cohousing Friendship!

Those of us lucky enough to live in cohousing know how special it is. But how many of us ever get to a conference to share that joy with others? In what we called our **First Annual Celebration of Friendship**, Oakcreek members ventured to our 'sister' cohousing community in Tulsa, Heartwood Commons, for food and friendly fun! (Next year they'll come our way.) As the event coincided with Tulsa's famous Oktoberfest, some of us ventured that way for even more festivity :-)











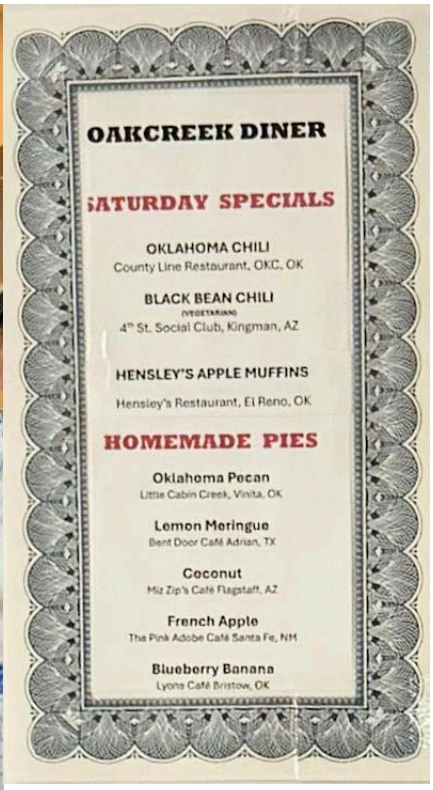


P.S. - Heartwood Commons has just a few homes available; you can get more info at heartwoodcommonstulsa.com.

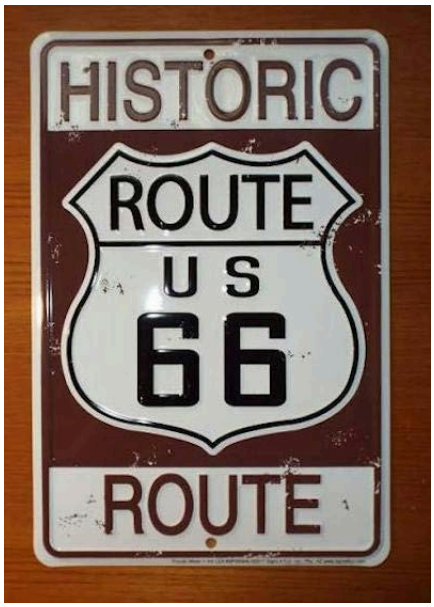
Common Meals

Sometimes **Common Meals** are not so common!



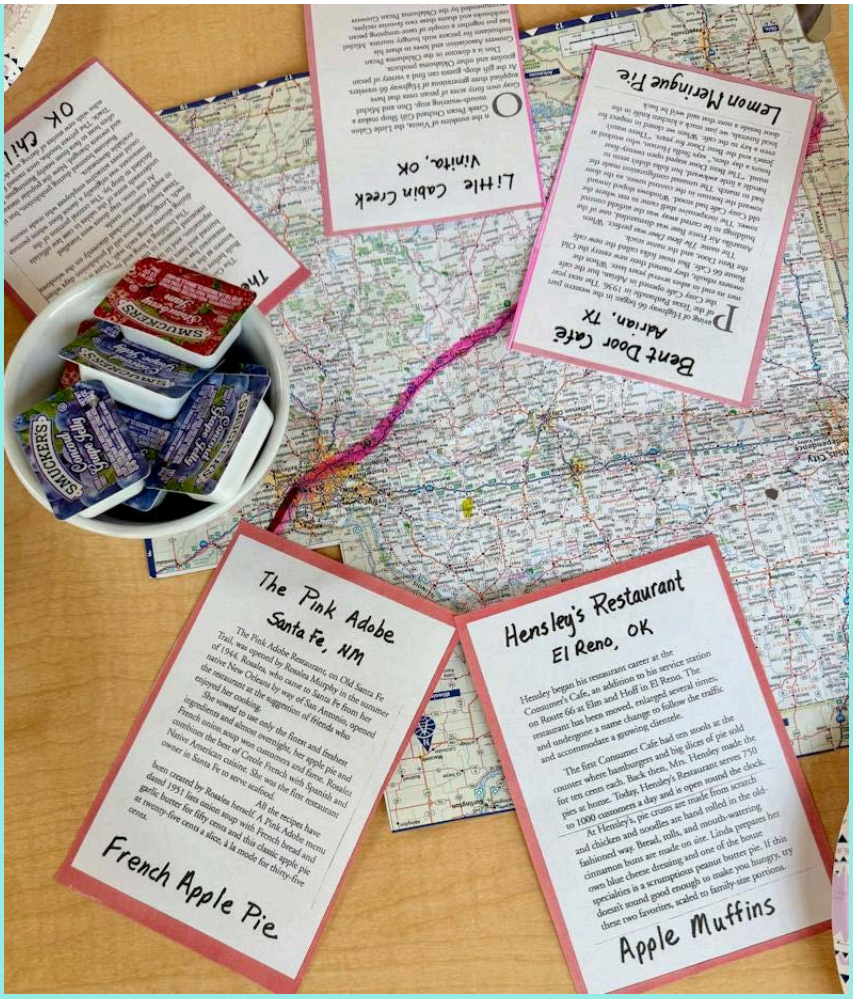


Waitresses (aka Harvey Girls): Pat T., Nadine, and Donna



In celebration of the 100th Anniversary of this famous highway, our creative cooks planned a Route 66 diner experience for Oakcreek. All the menu items came from historic Route 66 Diners. Delicious!

- 2 Chilis, Muffins and 5 Different Pies
- Maps of Route 66 at each Table
- Surly Waitresses
- Authentic Recipes
- Stories from Route 66 Diners including a 'saucy' tale of a 30's bootlegging establishment-turned-diner with trap doors for customers to escape government agents.



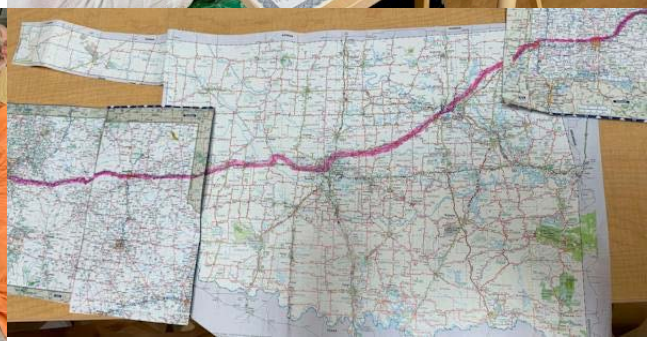
"Route 66 is the essence of Americana: The Mother Road as America's Main Street, embodies the core small-town values of America, with its Mom-and-Pop stores, its vintage service stations, motels and ***diners****."*

- Austin Whithal











Pat and Steve provide a Chicken Salad Common Meal.



Common meals provide good food, good conversation, and good community.

Community Activities



How many puzzles get done in a year? 12, 24, 36, 1000?
Ronda, Mike, Nadine and Steve show off a recent
Route 66-themed accomplishment.

Chuck and Ronda had a surplus of soda and ice cream, so Pod 3 was able to enjoy an impromptu float party on a beautiful fall day - yum!





No matter how long you've lived in cohousing, it's never too late to learn something new. Hilary had the idea of a 'pantry tour' so several of us visited neighbors' homes to see how we've organized our various storage areas.

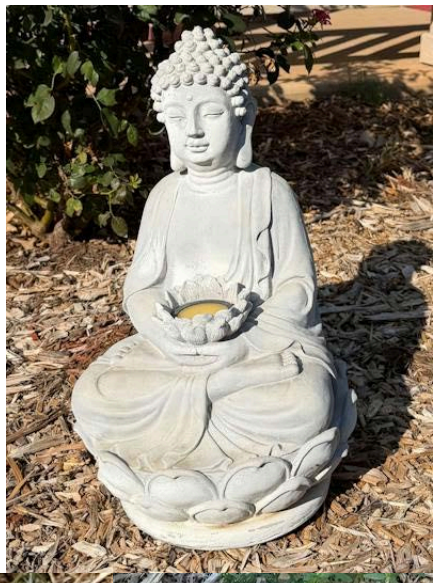


Pod One's Garden Art



Our 24 homes are grouped into three "pods" of eight homes each.

Yes, we are *pod people*!











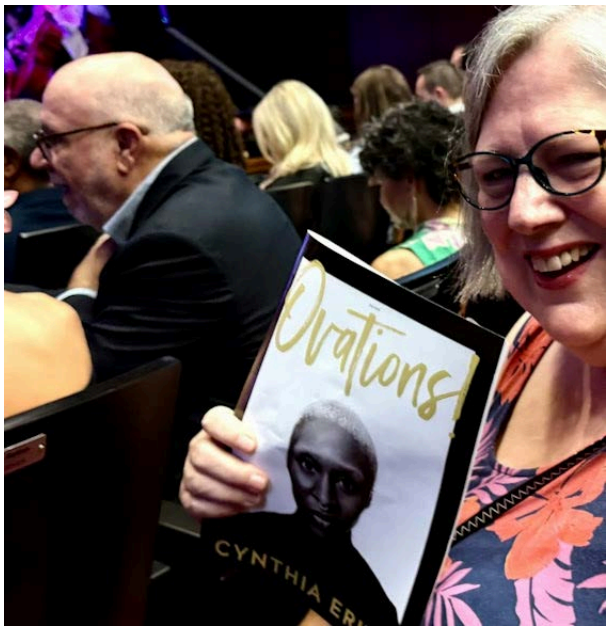
Supporting Our Local Community

The McKnight Center featured Broadway and movie star Cynthia Erivo opening night!



Photo above by Luis Mejia courtesy of the McKnight Center.





The McKnight Center is the beautiful performing arts facility at OSU (Oklahoma State University) here in Stillwater. Pat D., Tracy, and Hilary (above) were some of the Oakcreekers attending the season-opening gala performance. Other performers and shows coming this season include: Trombone Shorty, Preservation Hall Jazz Band, Nutcracker! Magical Christmas Ballet, LeAnn Rimes, Joshua Bell, the National Symphony Orchestra, Samara Joy, the Marsalis-McAllister-Ames Trio, Stephen Schwartz and Friends, Joshua Henry and the musicals Shucked and Waitress. (Not bad for a small city!)

Cool tunes for a hot summer!

The **Sheerar Cultural and Heritage Center** is housed in a beautiful historic building downtown. The 18th Annual Cool Classics Concert Series finale featured a history of Oklahoma music by the Dust Jackets.

Attending, below left: Marilyn, Mike, Chuck, Ronda, Pat T., Steve



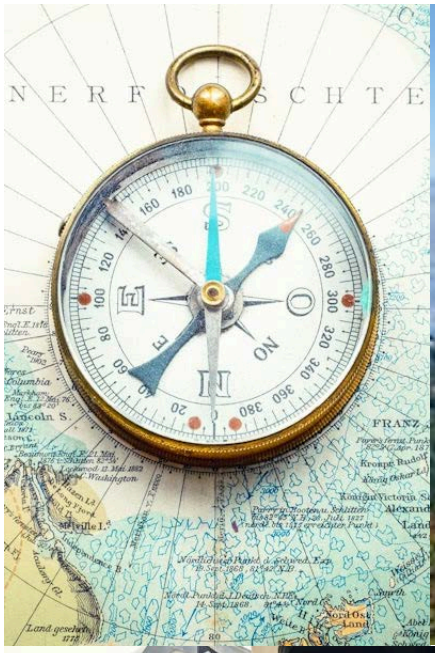


Our Daily Bread's Fundraiser *Battle of the Chefs*



Many Oakcreekers volunteer monthly (or more) at Our Daily Bread Food & Resource Center here in Stillwater. Shown above are just a few of them (Steve, Susan, Hilary, Sue, Tracy, Pat D.).

Oakcreekers on the Go!









Top Right: Tom V. enjoys a view of the Maine coast. *Bottom Left:* Bob B. and Marcia journey across the Rockies on the Canadian Railroad. *Bottom Right:* Hilary and Susan in NYC wih friends Sheila and Lynn.

Oklahoma is OK, but...

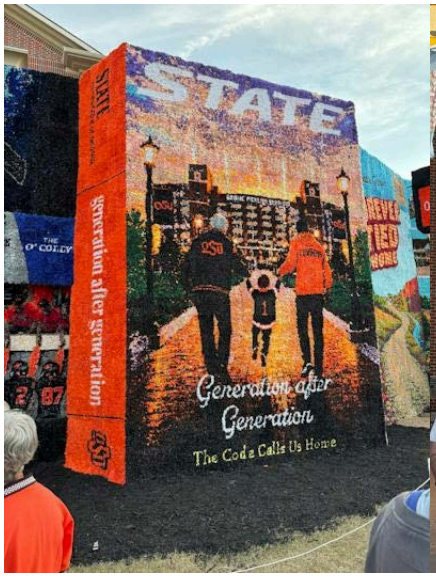
Stillwater is Stellar!

Homecoming at OSU

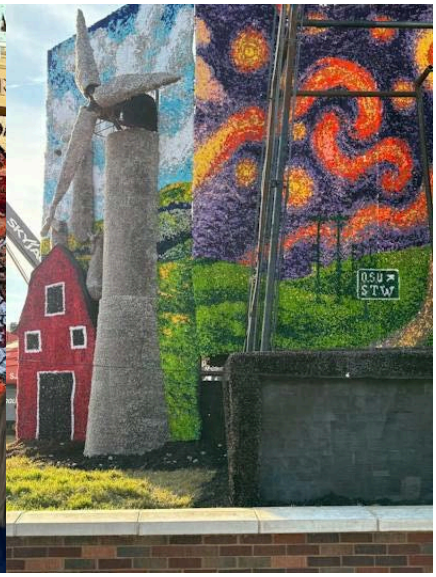


As Stillwater, OK is known as America's Friendliest College Town, naturally, OSU hosts **America's Greatest Homecoming Celebration**! Pictured are some of the decorations from the Walkaround and Oakcreek OSU retired profs Steve & Pat T.









The new terminal is open!





The new Stillwater Regional Airport terminal is now open. The $30 million project was funded jointly by the FAA, the OK Department of Aerospace and Aeronautics, and the City of Stillwater. And it's still only a five minute drive from Oakcreek :-)

Art in Stillwater

The **OSU Museum of Art** occupies the historic former post office building downtown, built in 1933. The museum opened in 2014 and is now accredited by the American Alliance of Museums.





At left are still lifes from the current featured exhibit of works by renowned artist Otto Duecker (who earned his BFA at OSU).

At right, Ronda and Hilary attempt their own still lifes :-)



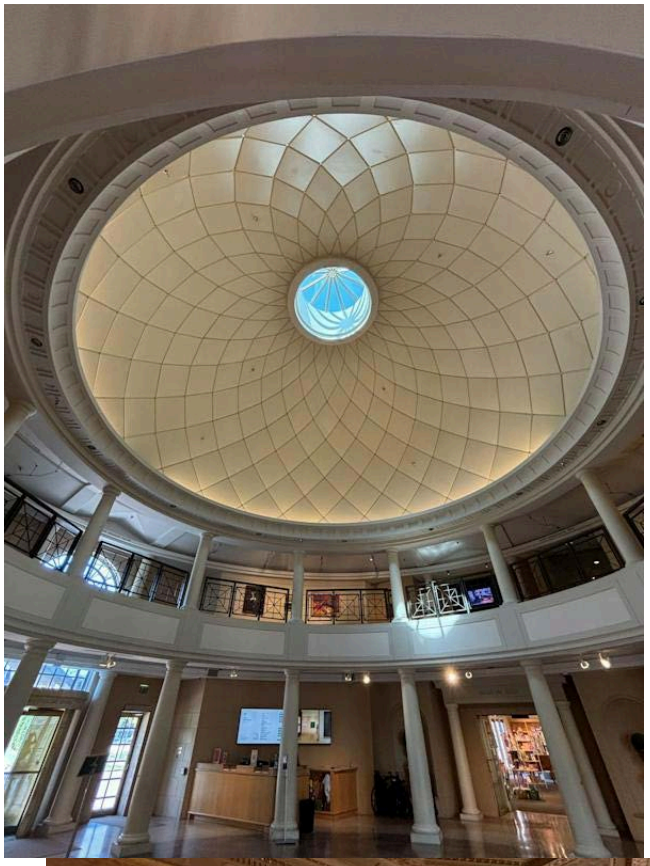


OKLAHOMA is *more* than OK!

And more art....



Tulsa is only an hour away from Stillwater, and among its many charms is the beautiful **Philbrook Art Museum and Gardens**. The historic villa was built in the 1920's as the home for Oklahoma oil baron Waite Phillips, and he and his wife Genevieve donated the



property for use as a world-class art museum which opened in 1939. In conjunction with the incredible gardens, the property was named "the most beautiful place in Oklahoma" by House Beautiful magazine.

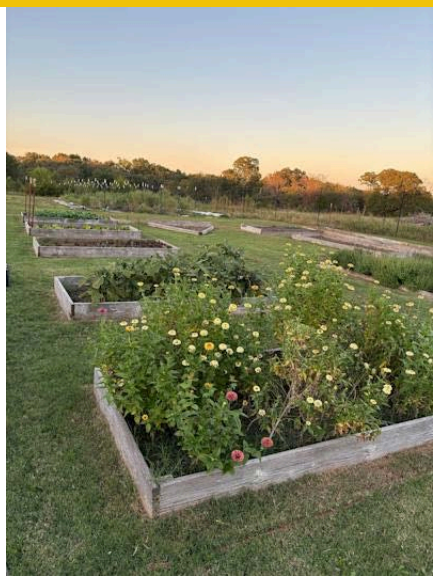






Photo above by Wolfgang Sauber

A truly tasty experience



Also about an hour from Stillwater is a gastronomical and pastoral pleasure, being **Living Kitchen Farm and Dairy**. Started by Chef Lisa Becklund in 2005, she and partner Linda Ford moved their farm-to-table dining experience to a 400-acre property in rural Depew, OK in 2009. A James Beard Award semifinalist for Outstanding Restaurant in 2022, guests can enjoy visiting the farm, petting goats and celebrating the delights of fine cuisine at communal tables. (Much like we do at Oakcreek!) Resident Sue is pictured below right at the 'head' of the table, and Chef Lisa is pictured below left between Hilary and Susan.













Kay Stewart:

Two cohousing design principles have been especially valuable to me recently:

1. Fostering **naturally occurring community**

2. Supporting the ability **to age in place**

Designing for Accessibility
When the founders of Oakcreek Senior Cohousing in Stillwater, Oklahoma designed the community, they aimed to minimize barriers to moving freely throughout the site. Through thoughtful planning and the addition of a few essential ramps, residents can reach every home and shared community building without navigating a single step up or down.

Aging in Place in Practice
After living at Oakcreek for 14 years, I underwent a total hip replacement at age 85. Following one overnight hospital stay, I returned to my home on Oakcreek's 7.5-acre site. By renting a battery-powered mobility chair, I remained connected throughout my multi-week recovery and did not miss a single common meal, team meeting, happy hour, movie night, or gathering on a neighbor's porch.

Lastly .... making the pumpkin magic happen!



~ COME VISIT ~

We recommend you come visit! There are a variety of opportunities. You are welcome to join us for Happy Hour (Thursdays 5-6 pm), a Common Meal (6pm, ~every 5th night), Monthly Meeting (2nd Sunday, 5:15 pm), Morning Coffee (Mondays, 10 am) or a Tour (anytime, just call in advance).

If you have an interest in hearing more about Oakcreek and cohousing in general, please ask to be placed on our Interested List. You will receive more detailed information about life at Oakcreek, and will be among the first to hear about available homes. If you're already receiving Interested List mailings, there's no need to re-list yourself.

Pat Darlington
405-880-3703
Oakcreek Senior Cohousing Community
1806 N. Husband Street
Stillwater, OK 74075

Newsletter by members Hilary and Susan