

SIERRA SENIOR CENTER NEWS

PO Box 122, 49111 Cinder Lane, Oakhurst, CA 93644 (559) 658-2200

Instagram: @sierraseniorcenter Facebook: @OakhurstSeniorCenter



SEPTEMBER 2025 LUNCH

The <u>Senior Lunch Program</u> offers a different hot meal every weekday for adults 60 and older, regardless of income. Sierra Senior Center is one of the locations that provides a hot lunch at 11:30am Monday through Friday. You must reserve your meal by 11:30am PRIOR to the day you plan to attend; you can reserve it with our lovely SSC lunch rep Michelle, or contact EMRAP at emrap.seniorlunch@gmail.com or 559-460-3431.

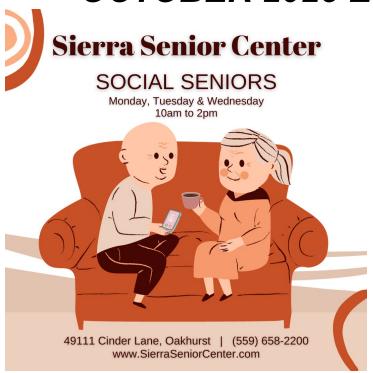
This program is funded by the federal government via a grant to the counties. Madera County provides additional funds to support the program.

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
		Build Your Own Burrito WG 6" Flour Tortilla 1ea Beef Barbacoa, Shred 3oz. w/pep.&onion@4oz. ea. Shred. Cheese 1/2 oz. +Cabbage and Cilantro 1/2c Honeydew Chunks 1/2 cup 1/2pt 1% White Milk 1ea.	Chicken Breast 1ea (4oz.@26q Pro) w/ Alfredo Sauce 2oz WG Penne Pasta 1/2 c. +Hi C Salad 1 Cup Mixed Fruit 1/2c. 1/2pt 1% White Milk 1ea.	Ranch Beans 1/2c. (Pinto 6g Pro) Shred. Cheese 1/2 oz. WWDinner Roll 1 ea. Italian Veg.1/2c. *Orange, Fresh 1 ea. 1/2pt 1% White Milk 1ea.
Chicken Meatballs 3ea.(3oz.@14q Pro) w/ gravy 1 oz. WG Egg Noodle 1/2c. **Calif. Mix Veg. 1/2c. *Mandarin Oranges 1/2c 1/2pt 1% White Milk 1ea.	7 Pork Rib-B-Q (2.5oz@2oz Meat Eq.)1ea w/ gravy 1 oz. WWDinner Roll 1 ea. Greenbeans 1/2c. +Hi C Salad 1 Cup Mixed Fruit 1/2c. 1/2pt 1% White Milk 1ea.	8 On Hamburger on Bun Beef Patty 1 ea. (2.25 oz@13g Pro) Cheese 1 sl. Tomato, Lettuce, Onion 1 ea. *Broccoli Salad 1/2c. Pineapple Tidbits 1/2c. 1/2pt 1% White Milk 1ea.	9 Chick. Fajita Strips (3oz.@15g Pro) w/ WG 6" Flour Tortilla 1ea Corn sauté w/ peppers & onions 1/2c +Cantaloupe Chunks 1/2 cup 1/2pt 1% White Milk 1ea.	Vegetable Chili 1/2c. (Pinto 8g Pro) Shred. Cheese 1/2 oz. WWDinner Roll 1 ea. Italian Veg.1/2c. *Orange, Fresh 1 ea. 1/2pt 1% White Milk 1ea.
Orange Chicken (3.6 oz.@2 oz. Meat Eq (#10 scoop) WG Wild Rice 1/2 c. *Broccoli 1/2c. **Apricots 1/2c. 1/2pt 1%White Milk 1 ea.	14 Pepper Steak 1ea (2.25oz. @2oz Meat Eq.) w/gravy1oz. WWDinner Roll 1 ea. Margarine 1ea. *Mashed Potato 1/2c. **Calif. Mix Veg. 1/2c. Pineapple Tidbits 1/2c. 1/2pt 1%White Milk 1 ea.	15 Frankfurter 1ea (Beef 2 oz. Meat Eq) on WG Hot Dog Bun 1 ea. +Coleslaw 3/4 c. Ketchup 1 ea. Mustard 1 ea. Diced Peaches 1/2c. 1/2pt 1%White Milk 1 ea.	16 Chicken Patty 1 ea. (3.29oz@2 oz. Meat Eq. & 1 oz. Grain Eq.) w/Marinara Sauce 1 oz. WG Penne Pasta 1/2 c. Italian Veg.1/2c. +Cantaloupe Chunks 1/2 cup 1/2pt 1% White Milk 1ea.	17 Beef (2.5oz.@15g Pro.) Broccoli (4oz) @ 6oz ea. Rice, Black 1/2 c. **Sweet Potatoes1/2c. *Orange, Fresh 1 ea. 1/2pt 1%White Milk 1 ea.
20 Chicken Thigh 1ea (4oz.@19a Pro.) w/Mushroom Sauce WG Barley 1/2 c. *Broccoli 1/2c. Tropical Fruit 1/2c. 1/2pt 1%White Milk 1 ea.	Beef Meatloaf 1ea. Meatloaf (3.15 oz@2.25oz Meat Eq.) w/gravy 1oz. WG Egg Noodle 1/2c. **Calif. Mix Veg. 1/2c. *Mandarin Oranges 1/2c 1/2pt 1%White Milk 1 ea.	22 Sandwich, Tuna (2oz @13g Pro.) & (.5 oz egg & 2oz veg.) @1/2 c. ea. on WW Bread 2 sl. +Hi C Salad 1 Cup **Apricots 1/2c. 1/2pt 1%White Milk 1 ea.	Build Your Own Burrito WG 6" Flour Tortilla 1ea Turkey, Seasoned 4oz. (18.55g Pro) Pinto Beans 1/4c. (3.5g Pro) Shred. Cheese 1/2 oz. +Cabbage and Cilantro 1/2c Honeydew Chunks 1/2 cup 1/2pt 1%White Milk 1 ea.	Country Fried Steak, Beef 3.202@12qPro w/ country gravy 2 oz. WWDinner Roll 1 ea. Mashed Potato 1/4c. Greenbeans w/red peppers 1/2c. +Cantaloupe Chunks 1/2 cup 1/2pt 1%White Milk 1 ea.
Tandoori Chicken Thigh 1 ea. (40z.@19q Pro.) WG Quinoa 1/2 c. **Calif. Mix Veg. 1/2c. *Mandarin Oranges 1/2c 1/2pt 1%White Milk 1 ea.	28 Pork Rib-B-Q (2.5oz@2oz Meat Eq.)1ea Sand. On Whole Wheat Bun 1 ea. *Broccoli Salad 1/2c. Tropical Fruit 1/2c. 1/2pt 1%White Milk 1 ea.	Swiss Bf.Patty1ea. (2.25oz. @2oz Meat Eq.) WWDinner Roll 1 ea. +Hi C Salad 1 Cup *Parsley Potato 1/2 c. Pineapple Tidbits 1/2c. 1/2pt 1%White Milk 1 ea.	30 WGBrd.Fish 1ea. (3.6oz.@2 oz. Meat Eq. & 1 oz. Grain Eq.) WG Rice Blend 1 c. *Broccoli 1/2c. Mixed Fruit ½ c. 1/2pt 1%White Milk 1 ea.	31 Beef Patty (2.25oz @13g Pro) 1ea w/grv 1oz. WG Egg Noodle 1/2c. Italian Veg.1/2c. *Orange, Fresh 1 ea. 1/2pt 1%White Milk 1 ea.

OCTOBER 2025 Activities Calendar

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
5 12pm Mountain Unitarian Universalist	<u>6</u> 10am – 2pm Open Hours	7 10am – 2pm Open Hours 6pm – 8pm Junk	1 10am - 2pm Open Hours 10am-12pm SSC Board Meeting 8 10am-12pm Internet Basics 10am - 2pm	2 10am Exercise 11am General Member Mtg 11:30am Bingo 6pm – 7pm Dance Class 9 10am Food Bank @ Community Ctr 10am	3 10am-12pm Computer Basics	4 11am Bingo 11 11am Bingo & \$5 Lunch
Church Svc	13	Journaling	Open Hours	Exercise 11:30am Bingo 5pm – 7pm Paint Party 16	17	19
12pm Mountain Unitarian Universalist	CLOSED FOR Columbus/ Indigenous People's Day	10am - 2pm Open Hours 10am-12pm SSC Event	10am-12pm Email Basics 10am – 2pm Open Hours	10am Exercise 11:30am Bingo 6pm – 7pm Dance Class		9am-10:30am Pancake Breakfast 2pm - 4pm Finger Knitted Scarf
19	20	<u>21</u>	22	23	24	<u>25</u>
12pm Mountain Unitarian Universalist Church Svc	10am – 2pm Open Hours	8am-10am Brown Bag Pickup 10am – 2pm Open Hours	10am – 2pm Open Hours	10am Exercise 11:30am Bingo 7pm-9pm Radio Club	1pm – 2pm Master Gardener Club 5pm - 7pm PAINT PARTY	10am-11am Yoga 11am Bingo & Pizza Lunch 4pm-7pm Craft Demos
<u>26</u>	<u>27</u>	<u>28</u>	<u>29</u>	<u>30</u>	<u>31</u>	
12pm Mountain Unitarian Universalist Church Svc	10am – 2pm Open Hours	10am – 2pm Open Hours 10am–12pm SSC Event Committee – all welcome!	10am – 2pm Open Hours	10am Exercise 11:30am Bingo 6pm – 7pm Dance Class		

OCTOBER 2025 Events & Activities











49111 Cinder Ln, Oakhurst, CA

NO
PARTNER
NO
PROBLEM



DANCE CLASSES

Teaching both American and Latin styles: Swing, Fox Trot, Cha Cha and salsa.!

EVERY TWO WEEKS ON THURSDAY
STARTING SEPTEMBER 18TH
AT 6PM

INSTRUCTOR: ED BAILEY

FREE for Members/ \$5 non-members

Pay at the door or via the link below:

https://tinyurl.com/sscdanceclass

Sierra Senior Center



Bingo sales close at 11:30am.
Bingo begins promptly at 12:00pm.
Play will not be delayed due to late arrival.
Open to the public; must be 18 yrs old to play.

49111 Cinder Lane, Oakhurst (559) 658-2200 | OakhurstSierraSeniorCenter.com www.SierraSeniorCenter.com



Madera County Library- OAKHURST BRANCH

Free in-person classes Held at the Sierra Senior Center



DIGITAL LITERACY CLASSES

Computer Basics - Friday, Oct. 3rd Internet Basics - Wednesday, Oct. 8th Email Basics - Wednesday, Oct. 15th 10:00am - 12:00pm

- Learn how to navigate computer hardware, software, the Internet, and email.
- · Personal devices are welcome.
- Library laptops will be available for use.
- Led by Oakhurst Branch Librarian.

Register at https://maderacounty.libcal.com/ or give us a call! 559-683-4838

49111 Cinder Ln, Oakhurst, CA 93644

Sierra Senior Center October 4, 2025

• Bingo sales close at 11:30am; arrive early to purchase your games. •



SSC hosts Bingo every Thursday & the 1st, 2nd & 4th Saturday of every month.

· Bingo begins at 12pm sharp. Play will not be delayed due to late arrival. ·

49111 Cinder Lane, Oakhurst | 559-658-2200 www.SierraSeniorCenter.com



THURSDAY 5:00-7:00PM

9

October

Paint Party!



Pumpkins



11x14 Canvas

Instructor: Rhiana Jones rhianajones@handmadejoybyrhi.com Facebook.com/rhianajones

LOCATION: Sierra Senior Ctr 41139 CA-41, Oakhurst, CA





Members: https://square.link/u/HENi53B2 Non-Members: https://square.link/u/ydU92WP0



FREE FOOD DISTRIBUTION



OAKHURST COMMUNITY CENTER

39800 Road 425B, Oakhurst

2nd Thursday Every Month 10:00am - 12:00pm

For more information contact: Michelle Ruiz: 559-674-1482



SATURDAY, Oct 11

- Open to the public, must be 18 years old to play.
- Lunch served at 11:00a.
- Bingo sales close at 11:30a.
- Play begins at 12:00p sharp.



Loaded Baked Potatoes - Build your own!

11:00am sharp, lunches sell out quickly! LUNCH OPEN TO THE PUBLIC



49111 Cinder Lane
Oakhurst, California 93644
www.SierraSeniorCenter.com



Every 2nd Sunday of the Month 2pm - 4pm

pay at the door! \$15

RSVP to Kathy Chisum 530-440-2213 or just show up! CASH PRIZES!

Must be 18 to play.

49111 Cinder Lane Oakhurst



Now is your opportunity to learn to make your very own

Finger Knit Scarf





Chunky yarn scarves are thick, soft, warm and cozy.

It's fun, easy and addicting. You will be shown a couple of different stitch options. Yarn will be provided on a first come first pick basis. To prevent any one scarf being identical everyone will have a different color to work with. I will have both variegated and solid color options to choose from. All you need to bring are your fingers and friends. Feel free to bring a beverage of your choice. Text any questions regarding this class to (916)812-7024

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NO refunds. Payment must be made in advance via venmo @Sherre-Hendricks-7

2 pm - 4 pm

Ages 12 and above may attend

Sierra

Senior

Center

49111 Cinder Lane

Pancake Breakfast

Save some money on eating out by joining us at the Sierra Senior Center for a delicious stack of pancakes, eggs, bacon, sausage, fruit, orange juice, and coffee for only \$10!

> October 18, 2025 9am - 10:30am

tinyurl.com/SSCPancakeBfast





Sierra Senior Center



Radio Club Meetings are held the 4th Thursday of each month (except November & December) from 7-9:00pm at Sierra Senior Center.

Contact President Terry Burley, W6HRY or revcab@sti.net with questions.

49111 Cinder Lane, Oakhurst | 559-658-2200

FRIDAY 5:00-7:00PM

24

October

Paint Party!



Halloween Cat



Instructor: Rhiana Jones rhianajones@handmadejoybyrhi.com Facebook.com/rhianajones

LOCATION: Sierra Senior Ctr 41139 CA-41, Oakhurst, CA





Members: https://square.link/u/S90VbfXN Non-Members: https://square.link/u/T90DExfL

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Sierra Senior Center

CONGRATULATIONS



OCTOBER 2025

player of the month

Patty James

Winner receives \$5 off each session of Bingo played during the month (

49111 Cinder Lane, Oakhurst | 559-658-2200

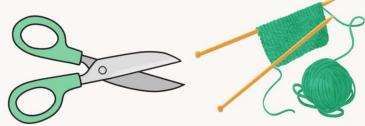


COSTTO PARTICIPATE

You'll get your own table to demo your craft. Visitors can watch, learn, and even make something right there at your station. Crafts can be anything from knitting, to rock painting, embroidery, junk journaling, crochet, and more!

WHIAT'S INVOLVED

No table fee! Simply donate a raffle prize valued at \$20 or more.



4-7PM OCT 25

49111 Cinder Ln, Oakhurst, CA
Contact Georgia to reserve a booth
georgiakopelssc@gmail.com





SUPPORT OUR SEMORS

Join us in making a meaningful difference in the lives of our community's seniors by donating to the Sierra Senior Center. Your generous contributions directly support programs and services that enhance the well-being and quality of life for our community members.

Your donation helps us maintain and expand services, ensuring that seniors have access to resources and support necessary to lead fulfilling and independent lives.

DONATE TODAY-MAKE A DIFFERENCE IN THE LIVES OF OUR SENIORS!

https://tinyurl.com/SSCSOS



The Sierra Senior Center would like to publicly thank our current members for their ongoing support of the Sierra Senior Center. With your help, we have worked to bring our center back to life and to present more one-time and on-going events.

Support your Senior Center by joining our community or renewing your membership. A single membership is \$20 annually; a couple membership is \$30 annually. Once you register or renew, our automated system will remind you when your membership is about to expire. How simple is that?

Scan the code or visit tinyurl.com/SSCMembershipSSC to join or renew.



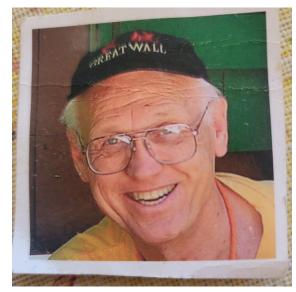
Questions? Ask any board member or email us at OakhurstSierraSeniorCenter@gmail.com.

October 2025 - CHEERS TO YOU!

Welcome to a column where YOU are spotlighted, treasured, and looked at in a whole new light! No longer are you the "invisible senior," but rather the whole person that came before the person we see today.

Cheers To You In Memorium Parkes Johnson

By Kathy Connolly and Lori Howard



In writing about our local seniors, I generally take readers though the life and times of our celebrated "senior of the month" by highlighting their early years, their work, retirement, and what brought them to our foothills. In this case, it is the closing of Parkes life that can give us all a lesson on humanity, humility, and the value

of community. Rest in peace, Parkes Johnson, and thank you for this simple reminder of our goodness.

Reverend Parkes Johnson devoted 35 years as a minister at several churches in the United States, ending up in the San Francisco Bay area for many years. In retirement, Parkes became an adult education teacher. Kathy, Parkes' wife of 28 years, was also an adult education teacher, as well as a Director at four different bay area Senior Centers. Their lives were full and challenging.

When retirement rolled around, Kathy and Parkes had the opportunity to move closer to their favorite place, Yosemite. Oakhurst was perfect for the new life they were craving. They spent their early retirement time camping and skiing, joined a local hiking group, and taught English as a Second Language classes at the Oakhurst Library. Frequent house guests and the love of world cruises rounded out their busy retirement.



Caretaking entered their lives when they brought Kathy's mother to Oakhurst to live with them. This gift of time with mom brought joy to their lives, but also unintentionally limited their ability to enjoy their new community and maintain local friendships. Then Covid and lockdowns hit, and Parkes began showing signs of dementia. Life got smaller for awhile.

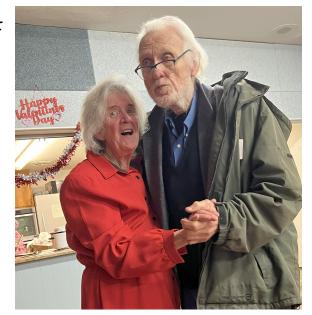


When the Oakhurst Sierra Senior Center (SSC) and the Senior Lunch Program reopened after Covid, Kathy and Parkes became lunchtime regulars at SSC. All it took was that first call to reserve their

lunches for the next day. No credit card, no questions, nutritionally balanced lunches, and other active seniors to meet and enjoy. Kathy says they felt instantly welcomed, and everyone accepted Parkes'

obvious signs of dementia with grace. Kathy got the freedom to chat with many different people and share meals with Parkes and new friends without worrying so much about Parkes.

These lunch gatherings became a large part of Parkes' every day enjoyment until he passed in August 2025, and remain an important support group for Kathy. She relishes meeting people who have had similar experiences and who can be a valuable resource for community information and activities.



As Kathy says, "We're here to support each

other along the way." People need people, and she wants you to know that SSC is here for you. Come visit — it can make a difference in your life and other senior lives.

For more information regarding the Eastern Madera County Lunch program please email <a href="mailto:emailto:emailto:emailto:emailto:emailto:emailto:emailto:emailto:emailto:emailto:emailto:emailto:emailto:emailto:emailto:emailto:emailto:emailto:emailto:emailto:emailto:emailto:emailto:emailto:emailto:emailto:emailto:emailto:emailto:emailto:emailto:emailto:emailto:emailto:emailto:emailto:emailto:emailto:emailto:emailto:emailto:emailto:emailto:emailto:emailto:emailto:emailto:emailto:emailto:emailto:emailto:emailto:emailto:emailto:emailto:emailto:emailto:emailto:emailto:emailto:emailto:emailto:emailto:emailto:emailto:emailto:emailto:emailto:emailto:emailto:emailto:emailto:emailto:emailto:emailto:emailto:emailto:emailto:emailto:emailto:emailto:emailto:emailto:emailto:emailto:emailto:emailto:emailto:emailto:emailto:emailto:emailto:emailto:emailto:emailto:emailto:emailto:emailto:emailto:emailto:emailto:emailto:emailto:emailto:emailto:emailto:emailto:emailto:emailto:emailto:emailto:emailto:emailto:emailto:emailto:emailto:emailto:emailto:emailto:emailto:emailto:emailto:emailto:emailto:emailto:emailto:emailto:emailto:emailto:emailto:emailto:emailto:emailto:emailto:emailto:emailto:emailto:emailto:emailto:emailto:emailto:emailto:emailto:emailto:emailto:emailto:emailto:emailto:emailto:emailto:emailto:emailto:emailto:emailto:emailto:emailto:emailto:emailto:emailto:emailto:emailto:emailto:emailto:emailto:emailto:emailto:emailto:emailto:emailto:emailto:emailto:emailto:emailto:emailto:emailto:emailto:emailto:emailto:emailto:emailto:emailto:emailto:emailto:emailto:emailto:emailto:emailto:emailto:emailto:emailto:emailto:emailto:emailto:emailto:emailto:emailto:emailto:emailto:emailto:emailto:emailto:emailto:emailto:emailto:emailto:emailto:emailto:emailto:emailto:emailto:emailto:emailto:emailto:emailto:emailto:emailto:emailto:emailto:emailto:emailto:emailto:emailto:emailto:emailto:emailto:emailto:emailto:emailto:emailto:emailto:emailto:emailto:emailto:emailto:emailto:emailto:emailto:emailto:emailto:emailto:emailto:emailto:emailto:em

If you know of someone who would be a great (local) senior to write about, let me know *Lori Howard (559) 683-7650.*

VOLUNTEER WITH THE SENIOR CENTER



Volunteer Coordinator: Georgia Kopel georgiakopelssc@gmail.com 510-499-4973

Volunteer Application Please print clearly!

Personal Contact Information			
Date: Name:			
Address:			
		ne Phone:	
Email:			
Emergency Contact Information	1		
Name:	Relationship	to you:	
		e:	
Email:			
Interests and Qualifications			
What areas are you interested in vol	unteering for?		
Fundraising		Administrative Support	
Event Planning		Social Media / Marketing	
Baking for Events and/or Bingo		Yard Work	
Phone calling		Teach classes (exercise, dance, art, etc)	
Start a club (hiking, Scrabble, bicy	cling, etc)	Event set-up / prep / clean-up	
I recognize that the opportunity to participate as hereby agree to assume all risks that may be as	s a volunteer at the ssociated with my nay sustain from be	e Sierra Senior may carry a risk of personal injury and I participation. I hereby release, discharge, waive and odily injury, personal injury or property damage and hold	
Volunteer Signature:		Date:	
Print Name:			

COMMUNITY SERVICES



Please fill out Brown Bag Application and mail it in to our office. To ensure you receive your brown bag, please submit your application and fee by the 5th of the month. Here is the break down for **pro - rated** months.

Please note: Calendar dates are subject to change.

January – December	\$60.00	July – December	\$30.00
February – December	\$55.00	August – December	\$25.00
March – December	\$50.00	September – December	\$20.00
April – December	\$45.00	October – December	\$15.00
May – December	\$40.00	November – December	\$10.00
June – December	\$35.00	December	\$5.00

Calendar	Tuesday	2025	
Month	Day	Year	
January	21	2025	
February	18	2025	
March	18	2025	
April	22	2025	
May	20	2025	
June	17	2025	
July	22	2025	
August	19	2025	
September	16	2025	
October	21	2025	
November	18	2025	
December	16	2025	

For application, contact <u>mruiz.maderafoodbank@gmail.com</u> or call 559-674-1482.



CalFresh Program

Who is it for?

CalFresh is for people with low-income who meet federal income eligibility rules and want to add to their budget to



put healthy and nutritious food on the table.

Visit www.cdss.ca.gov/calfresh to apply online or call the CalFresh Benefits Hotline at 877-847-3663



Our Care Companions at Valley
Caregiver Resource Center want to
provide your senior residents an
opportunity to stay connected during
this time. We will reach out to them
by phone on a weekly basis

All it takes is an authorized referral and we can begin our conversation today!

Funding Provided by Fresho-Madera Agency on Aging

Our phone calls promote:

- Socialization
- Community
 Connection
- Companionship
- Enhanced Physcial
 & Cognitive Health
- Positivity & Self-Esteem
- Staying Active in their Unique Setting

FOR MORE INFORMATION

Contact Meghan Velasquez 559-224-9121 mvelasquez@valleycrc.org



Eastern Madera County SENIOR BUS



For Reservations Call

(559) 263-8080 or (800) 325-7433

www.maderacounty.com/government/ public-works/tramst



MCDPH MOBILE HEALTH

Wellness Checkups

Services: Glucose **Blood Pressure** Pulse & Oxygen Temperature **Body Mass** Index (BMI) FOR MORE INFO, VISIT MADERACOUNTY.COM/MOBILEHEALTH OR SCAN THE QR CODE. PUBLIC HEALTH