

RANSOM OAKS NEWS

A Neighborhood Publication

Sponsored by Ransom Oaks Community Corporation and Our Advertisers

www.RansomOaks.com

2012 Thirty-Two Years of Ransom Oaks News

March 2012

Ransom Oaks Community Corporation • 101 Ransom Oaks Drive • East Amherst, New York 14051

Happy Spring 2012

The Ransom Oaks Board of Directors consists of volunteers



- residents who are elected to office by a vote of the ROCC membership. They strive to keep Ransom Oaks strong and vital for generations to come and invite you to attend any monthly meeting, as listed in each newsletter. ■

Ransom Oaks ... a great place a live.

Ransom Oaks

Who-to-call

INFORMATION If you have questions, problems, comments, or concerns:

- **Charlesgate, Forest Edge or Glen Oak** Clover Management, 688.04503
- **Briarwoods or Woodgate** Andruschat Real Estate Service, 688.4757
- **Ransom Oaks Architectural Matters** (regarding Single-family homes ONLY!) Mike Deck, 689.0988
- **Ransom Oaks Facilities Manager** (including Clubhouse Rentals) Tom and Kathy Halter, 691.7352
- **Comments** President of R.O.C.C. Mark Walsh, 636.6242
- **Vandalism, Animal Control or Security Concerns** Amherst Police, 689.1311
- **Swormville Fire**, 688.7055

What do you get when you cross poison ivy with a four-leaf clover? A rash of good luck.

~Author Unknown



February Board Meeting Highlights

Highlights from February 13, 2012 Board of Director's Meeting.

- Bob Anderson (Amherst Highway Dept.) and Katy Duggan-Haas (Modern Recycling) gave a presentation on the new Amherst refuse collection process.
- One resident attended the meeting. He wants to create a committee to foster "re-investment and beautification" in Ransom Oaks. He will be looking for more residents to work with him.
- The Ransom Oaks board cannot enforce leash laws. That is not part of the Covenants and Restrictions. The board does ask that residents and everyone else follow the Town Of Amherst leash laws.
- We will create a firm format and database of resolutions passed by the board.
- We have extended our existing agreement with the Town regarding mulch. The Town will continue to supply mulch at no charge in exchange for our mowing the courts.

The Town does not mow as frequently as we desire.

- A resident would like to coordinate repairs to concrete driveway pads and perhaps sidewalks with the hope of negotiating a better price.
- We are looking into updating our web site.
- The audit of our 2011 financial status is in process. ■

Ransom Oaks Annual GARAGE SALE

If you haven't started gathering those items you thought you might use but never did, then now is the time. Our team of volunteers are gearing up for the **Annual Ransom Oaks Garage Sale**. Watch for upcoming details in the *Ransom Oaks News!* ■

Daylight Savings Time begins on Sunday, March 11.

Don't forget change your clock! Spring ahead! ■

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Happy Birthday!

March Friends



Gabrielle Rose	18
March 4	
Taylor Vogel	11
March 7	
Alex Perry Ciambella	5
March 8	
William Walkowski	16
March 9	
Zachary Toner	12
March 9	
Benedict Gregory IV	10
March 11	
Aurora Tyska	6
March 13	
Catherine Walkowski	12
March 14	
Bradley Toner	17
March 15	
Lauren Greiner	13
March 18	
Sydney McKinley	13
March 20	
Tyler Penberthy	17
March 20	
Andrew White	18
March 22	
Alexandra Tubbs	21
March 23	
Kaitlyn Vogel	9
March 27	
Isabella Fueter	15
March 29	
Todd Witt	11
March 29	

Join the list! Send your name and birth date (and age if you prefer) to jkursten@ransomoaks.com.

The list will remain on file and printed annually unless you request to be removed. Please let us know if someone has moved. ■

Ransom Oaks Board of Directors

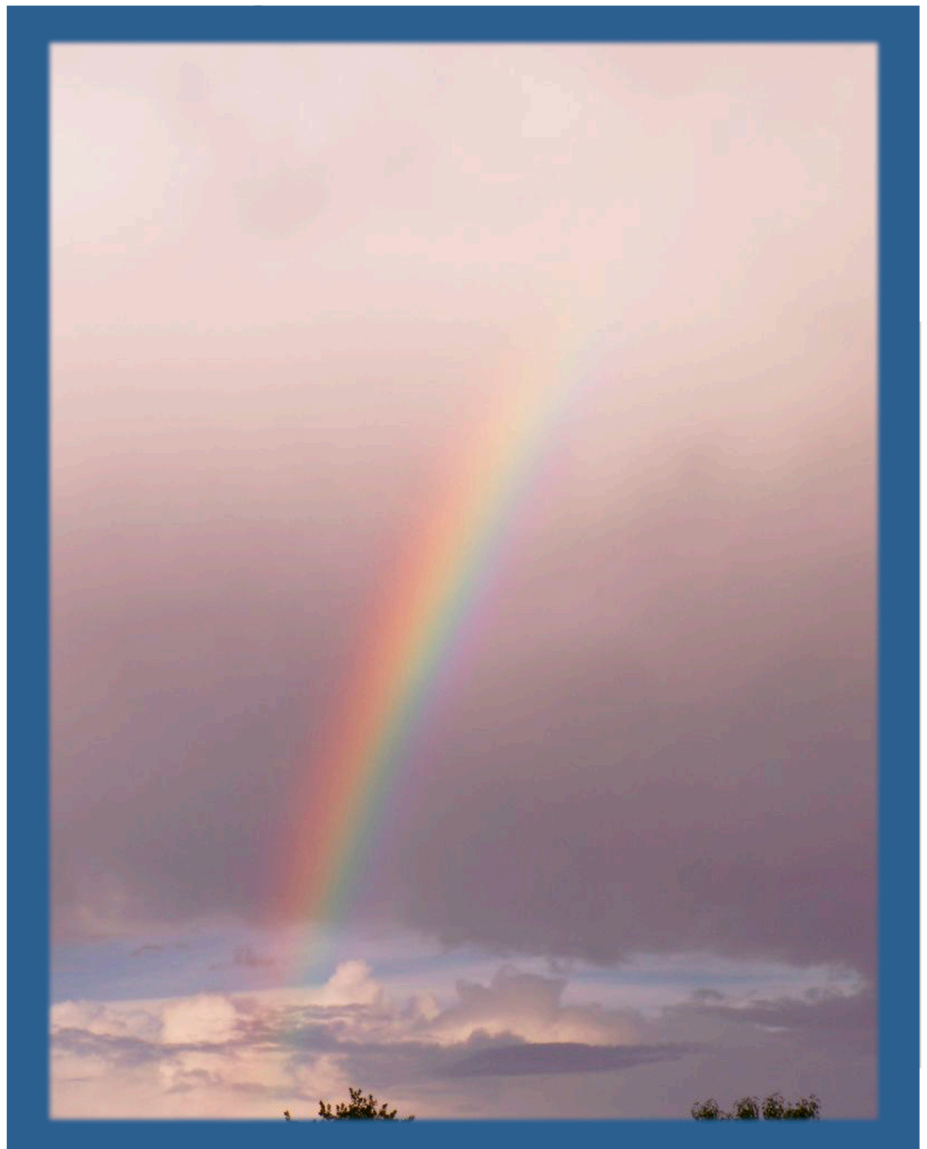
RANSOM OAKS is a planned community of 1,100 families. We value its location and believe it is a great place to live and raise a family.

Mark Walsh , <i>President</i>	636.6242	mwalsh@ransomoaks.com
Gene Zambarda , <i>Vice President</i>	689.0924	gzambarda@ransomoaks.com
Jim Golding , <i>Treasurer</i>	689.4919	jgolding@ransomoaks.com
Pete Calinski , <i>Secretary</i>	688.1871	pcalinski@ransomoaks.com
Michael Deck , <i>Architectural</i>	689.0988	mdeck@ransomoaks.com
Tom Meldrum , <i>Landscaping</i>	639.7364	tmeldrum@ransomoaks.com
James Burke , <i>P/R Communications</i>	913.8381	jburke@ransomoaks.com
Forrest Benson , <i>At Large</i>	688.4688	fbenson@ransomoaks.com
Dennis Thompson , <i>Facilities</i>	636.7437	dthompson@ransomoaks.com

RANSOM OAKS COMMUNITY CORPORATION (R.O.C.C.) Board of Directors consists of volunteer residents who are elected to office by a vote of the ROCC membership. The Board meets monthly at the Greenwood Drive Recreation Area, see calendar. Residents are welcome and encouraged to attend. ■

Ransom Oaks Staff

Kathy & Tom Halter , <i>Facilities Managers</i>	691.7352	thalter@ransomoaks.com
Jennifer Kursten , <i>News Editor/Designer</i>	434.0994	jkursten@ransomoaks.com



Ransom Oaks Facilities Report

The better part of winter is behind us, we hope, and warm weather plans are in the works. We are currently in the process of contacting our life guarding staff from last year to see who will be interested in returning to work for the community. This is the time you should be sending your resume if you are interested in a lifeguard position. At this point we are not sure if we will have any openings, but we will keep all resumes on file. Please send qualifications and references to: Kathy Halter, 38 Maricrest Drive, Amherst, NY 14228. Please remember that at this point, we do not know how many openings we will have.

Assessment notices were sent out in the beginning of January and were due by March 1, 2012. A late notice will be sent to all residents early in March. This assessment is for the calendar year of 2012 and mandatory for all ROCC residents. All assessments must be paid by mail. Please note that we will not send pool passes to residents with unpaid service charges or liens on their property.

All building rentals are now handled by contacting us at 691-7352. Please do not call after 9 p.m.

Kathy and Tom Halter
Ransom Oaks Facilities Managers
691.7352

Annual Assessment

LATE NOTICE— PAST DUE

If you have not paid your 2012 assessment yet, you can use the bill below.

Amount due for 2011: \$298.41
Due: March 31, 2012 *

Check payable to:
Ransom Oaks Community Corporation

Return to:
Kathy Halter
38 Maricrest Drive
Amherst, NY 14228

Questions call: 716-691-7352

Name

Ransom Oaks Address

Phone

E-mail

Print names of residents residing at Address:

Please return with self-address stamped envelope if you want facility use tags.

No one will be allowed to use the facilities without tags. Tags will be mailed in April.

*A service charge of 1.5% has been applied.

March Events

Buffalo Home & Garden Show

Fri. Mar 9 to Sun. Mar 18
Buffalo Niagara Convention Center,
One Convention Center Plaza, Buffalo
14202, www.buffalohomeshow.com

Interactive Dinner Theater

Fri. Mar 9 to Sat. Mar 10 3/9 at 7PM,
3/10 at 4PM. Relive the 1920's all over
again in a thrilling, once-in-a-lifetime,
interactive experience! Each perfor-
mance includes a door prize, spaghetti
dinner/dessert, and floor show!
Magruder's Restaurant, 4995 Broadway,
Depew 14043, 716-791-7529,
www.amherstplayers.org

10th Annual Women's History Month Show

Sat. Mar 10 Saturday 8pm -10pm
Partial Proceeds to benefit Girl Scouts
of WNY. Ladies First Jazz Big Band.
\$15 presale and \$20 day of show.
The Tralf Music Hall, 622 Main Street,
Buffalo 14222, 716-852-2860

Sculptural Structures

Thursday, March 15 / 6-9pm
Participants will learn three sculptural
models in this class. Structures will
incorporate origami folding as well as
other paper folding techniques. Pos-
sibilities for creating artists' books from
these structures will be explored and
examples will be shown. Prior experi-
ence is not necessary. *Western New
York Book Arts Center*, 468 Washington
Street, Buffalo 14203, 716-348-1430
www.wnybookarts.org/Sculptural.php

The Lochside Celtic Band

Thu. Mar 15, 6:00 pm
St. Patrick's Day Show at The Rapids
Theatre featuring: The Lochside Celtic
Band & Rochester Academy of Irish
Dancers. ALL AGES Show and FREE
Admission. *The Rapids Theatre*,
1711 Main Street, Niagara Falls 14305,
716-205-8925, www.rapidstheatre.com
or www.lochsidecelticband.com.

March Events continued on Page 5.

REDUCE - REUSE - RECYCLE

Reduce - reuse - recycle was the message Katy Duggan-Haas of Modern Corporation provided at the Ransom Oaks February Board Meeting. The following are some excerpts from her presentation. We thank Katy for taking the time to inform the residents about the Town of Amherst Recycling, Trash, and Yard Waste Program as well as the importance and advantages of reducing - reusing and recycling!

Yard Waste:

April 1 to November 30 each year.
Leaves, grass clippings, and brush.

Trash:

Place in totes at curb.
Call ahead for move out / clean out pick-up. More than 8 items in addition to totes (excluding metal and yard waste) is a move out/clean out. Now subject to a fee assessed by a summons and payable to the Town of Amherst.



Rewards Program:

Register online or by phone.
Place recyclables at the curb.
Earn Points.
Eligible for special sweepstakes give-aways.
Redeem points for discounts at local and national retailers.
The more you and your neighbors recycle, the more points you earn!

RECYCLING

Acceptable Items:

Paperboard

No wax coated paperboard

Office Paper & Junk Mail

Envelopes, Fliers, Brochures, and Postcards

Newspaper

Remove bags, strings, and rubber bands

Phone Books

All types and sizes

Magazines & Catalogs

All types and sizes

Milk & Juice cartons

Empty containers only

Cardboard, Pizza Boxes & Paper Bags

Flatten cardboard and cut into pieces. Remove wax paper from pizza boxes.

Household Plastic

Empty containers only #'s 3,4,5,6,7

Rigid Plastic

Place large items next to recycling containers.

Plastic Bags

Most retail and grocery bags.

Plastic Jugs / Bottles

#'s 1, 2

Aluminum Cans

Empty cans only

Kitchen Cookware

Metal pots, pans, tins, and utensils

Steel & Tin Cans

Empty cans only

Glass

Clear and colored



RECYCLING

Electronic Waste:

No curbside pick-up. Drop-off at Town Highway Department open from 7:00am - 7:00pm. Also accepted at many retail stores.

Scrap Metal:

Must call ahead for curbside pick-up. Call Modern Disposal at 1-800-330-7107.

Tires:

No curbside pick-up. Drop-off at the Amherst Highway Department, 1042 North Forest Road, Williamsville, NY 14221.

If you have additional questions regarding the Town of Amherst's Recycling, Trash and Yard Waste Program please contact:

Robert Anderson
Superintendent of Highways
Town of Amherst
716-631-7264
randerson@amherst.ny.us



Why Reduce & Recycle?

In the past 50 years, humans have consumed more resources than in all previous history!

At Home in Ransom Oaks...

As a Realtor and Ransom Oaks resident, neighbors often ask me questions about homes, real estate and in particular, market values in Ransom Oaks. I am delighted to have this opportunity to share information with you on a monthly basis. I will address such topics as home values, home decor, home improvement, curb appeal and home buying and selling.



For this month's article, I am providing a summary of sales in Ransom Oaks for the 6 month time period of 7/2011-12/2011. I know it is always interesting to see what homes are selling for in our own neighborhood!

Address	List Price	Sale Price	Sq. Ft.	%list vs. sold	BR/Bath
Glen Oak Dr.	209,900	215,000	2179	1.02	4/2.5
Glen Oak Dr.	254,900	245,000	2260	.96	3/2.5
Lilybrooke Ct.	185,000	188,000	1590	1.01	3/1.5
Honeysuckle Way	209,900	209,900	2166	1.0	4/2.5
Honeysuckle Way	219,000	217,000	2270	.99	4/2.5
Coriander Ct.	238,000	226,000	2893	.84	4/2.5
Coriander Ct.	249,900	228,000	2484	.91	3/2.5
White Cedar Dr.	224,900	225,000	2317	1.0	4/2.5
White Cedar Dr.	259,900	243,500	2604	.94	4/2.5

If you are wondering what your home is worth in today's market, please call, text or email me and I would be happy to do a market analysis. I promise I will NEVER pressure you and I will keep all information confidential! For more information about the market, real estate or to enter my quarterly contest (this quarter it's the cute pet photo contest!), please go to my website at: www.topbuffalorealtor.com

Sincerely,

Maureen Mirand, *Your Ransom Oaks Realtor*
716 866-9959, mmirand@realtyusa.com ■

March Events *cont'd*

Passport to Wellness

Fri. Mar 16. Indoor Mall Walks for older adults. Event includes health screenings, health education materials, prizes and light healthful snack. Meet on lower level near Sears and Apple Computer. *Galleria Mall*, 1 Walden Galleria Drive, Cheektowaga 14225, 716-851-4052, www.CreatingHealthyCommunities.org

2012 Art Classes for Children

Mar. 10 – Cave Art
Mar. 17 - Picasso Sculptures
Mar. 24 – Van Gogh's Flowers
Mar. 31 – Monet's Sailboats
Apr. 7 – Handmade Journals

Saturdays, 10am–12pm. Members: \$16 per class, \$70 all five classes. Non-members: \$24 per class, \$110 all five. All materials provided. Space is limited. Nancy Koch, certified art teacher. *Carnegie Art Center*, 240 Goundry Street, North Tonawanda 14120, 716-694-4400

Christian County Line Dancing

Mon. Mar 19 Mondays at 7:30PM
Good exercise and good fun! *Pendleton Center United Methodist Church*, 6864 Campbell Blvd at Bear Ridge, N. Tonawanda 14120, 716-625-8306 www.pendletoncenter.org

Seneca Indian Song, Dance & Lecture

Wed. Mar 21 6:00pm. Yale University's Alyssa Mt. Pleasant will present history

From the ROCC Editor



Thank you to this month's new advertisers! Be sure to check out the classifieds, perhaps you are in need of these services or you can recommend them to your friends! Don't forget to also mention to your friends the terrific opportunity to advertise in the Ransom Oaks News—they will have an audience of over 1,100 residents!

I would like to welcome Maureen Mirand as our monthly real estate editor providing updates on the Ransom Oaks home sales! You should find her articles quite helpful!

May the luck of the Irish be with you!
Jennifer Kursten

of the Iroquois people on the Buffalo Creek Reservation. \$10 members, \$15 nonmembers *Buffalo and Erie County Historical Society*, 25 Nottingham Court, Buffalo 14216.

Plantasia Garden & Landscape Show

Thu. Mar 22 to Sun. Mar 25 Theme is Taste of Spring. Features fully landscaped gardens; garden market; children's garden; seminars all four days and nightly entertainment. *The Fairgrounds Event Center*, 5820 South Park Avenue, Hamburg 14075, 716-741-8047, www.plantasiany.com

Penguins Days

Sat. Mar 24 - Sun. Mar 25. Get up close and personal with a Peruvian penguin! *Aquarium of Niagara*, 701 Whirlpool Street, Niagara Falls 14301, 716-285-3575, www.aquariumofniagara.org

Women Empowering Women

Sat. Mar 24 8:30 am - 4:30 pm. Women of all ages are welcomed. Feel better, look better and portray a healthier you. *Banchetti Banquet Facility & Grove*, 550 North French Road, Amherst 14228, www.positive-way.com/spirituality/women_empowering_women.htm. ■

Ransom Oaks Classifieds

How to Advertise with Us...

If you would take advantage of the opportunity to affordably reach over 1,100 residents, please follow the instructions below to start advertising your business or service in the Ransom Oaks News:

1. Call or email:
Jennifer Kursten, Editor, 716-434-0994
jkursten@ransomoaks.com
2. Write check to :
Ransom Oaks Community Corporation
Indicate which month(s) to apply payment.
3. Mail payment to:
PO Box 777, Lockport, NY 14095-0777
4. Deadline: All ad payments must be received by the **18th of the month prior** to publication. Without receipt of payment for the upcoming month by the 18th, the ad will not run.

CLASSIFIED AD RATES

Promote your service or sell an item.
Thirty word maximum per ad.

RESIDENTS: ■ \$7/mo.

NON-RESIDENTS ■ \$10/mo.

DISPLAY AD RATES

- 2 Col. x 1.5" high Ad: \$35/mo.
- 2 Col. x 3" high Ad: \$60/mo.
- 1/3 Page Ad: 3 Col. x 3" \$80/mo.
- 1/2 Page Ad: 3 Col. x 4.5" \$120/mo.
- 2/3 Page Ad: 3 Col. x 6" \$150/mo.
- Full Page Ad: 3 Col. x 9.5" \$225/mo.

Advertising Notes

Residents who place an ad in the Ransom Oaks News will no longer receive a duplicate copy mailed to their home. This is in an effort to be more green by not generating extra paper to be recycled and to reduce costs associated with printing. ■

Note: The R.O.C.C. Board of Directors and Staff do not necessarily have personal knowledge, nor are they able to recommend the advertisers who choose to advertise in this newsletter. ■

ARCH HOME INSPECTION

Bring **confidence** to your home transaction with a degreed Mechanical Engineer!
NYS License 16000040595. Visit ArchHomeInspection.com or call Barry Minbiole at 810.4486.



PIANO INSTRUCTION

Ransom Oaks resident Experienced teacher, references available. Lessons taught in your home: East Amherst, Clarence, Williamsville, Getzville, Lockport or the Tonawandas. Call 630.5998 or 598.3722.



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SunSetter
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Free Estimates

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Adore Your Home

• Handyman •

Interior/Exterior **Painting** • Deck & Fence Restoration
Seasonal **Yard Cleanup** • Topsoil & Mulch
Shrub **Trimming** • Gutter **Cleaning** • Any Small, Odd Job

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Ransom Oaks News reaching over 1,100 residents!

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 Licensed Real Estate Salesperson
 716.830.8787
 jbrown@realtyusa.com



RealtyUSA.com
 www.RansomOaksHomes.com 914 Maple Rd. Williamsville, NY 14221

The Ransom Oaks residents want to see what your business has to offer!

See page 6 for advertising rates!

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 E: MMIRAND@REALTYUSA.COM

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www.topbuffalorealtor.com

[914 Maple Rd. Williamsville, NY 14221]





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All This for **\$29.88** **SAVE \$15.00**
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Majority of vehicles, not applicable with other specials or discounts, see store for details

MARCH

Please visit our web site at www.RansomOaks.com

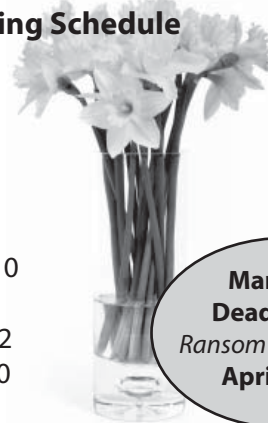
Next Meeting: Monday, March 12, 2012

MEETINGS begin at 6:30pm on the **2nd Monday** of the month. **RESIDENTS** are welcome and encouraged to attend. See you there!

*R.O.C.C. Covenants & Restrictions documents are available free of charge to residents who attend their community meeting, otherwise there is a \$20.00 fee.
Monthly meetings are held at the Greenwood Drive Recreation Center, unless noted otherwise.*

2012 Meeting Schedule

April 16
May 14
June 11
July 9
August 13
September 10
October 9
November 12
December 10



March 18
Deadline for
Ransom Oaks News
April issue.

PLEASE NOTE:
New Meeting Time
is now at
6:30 pm



Ransom Oaks
Community Corporation
101 Ransom Oaks Drive
East Amherst, NY 14051

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