



Ransom Oaks News

A Neighborhood Publication

Sponsored by Ransom Oaks Community Corporation & Our Advertisers

www.RansomOaks.com

2016 Thirty-Six Years of Ransom Oaks News

January 2016

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

Happy New Year 2016!

• New Year's Day • Martin Luther King Jr. Day •



Best Wishes
for a
Happy New Year
2016!

- Ransom Oaks Board of
Directors

ROCC Board of Directors Annual General Meeting & Election

Monday, January 11

Reminder!

The Annual General Meeting (AGM) & Board of Directors election will be held **Monday, January 11, 2016, 6:30 PM at the Greenwood Recreational Facility.**

Candidates who submitted their profiles were reported in the December 2015 issue of the Ransom Oaks News. The December edition is available on the website.

Candidates are also identified in a mailing containing the NOTICE OF ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING/PROXY/BALLOT along with the Board approved 2016 Budget. Additionally, see Page 5.

Please vote! ■



Ransom Oaks

Who-to-Call

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

- **Charlesgate or Glen Oak**
Clover Management, 688.4503
- **Briarwoods, Forest Edge, or Woodgate** Andruschat Real Estate Service, 688.4757
- **Ransom Oaks Architectural Matters** (regarding Single-family homes ONLY!) Mike Hartman, 406.8557
- **Ransom Oaks Facilities Manager** (including Clubhouse Rentals) Tom and Kathy Halter, 691.7352
- **Comments** President of R.O.C.C., Mark Walsh, 406.7008
- **Vandalism, Animal Control or Security Concerns** Amherst Police, 689.1311
- **Swormville Fire**, 688.7055

A Resolution for the
New Year...

Stop in @ the
ROCC Monthly
Meeting

2nd Mondays
Jan 11, Feb 8

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Happy Birthday!

Celebrating
our
January
Birthdays



Mary Bridget O’Sullivan	17
January 2	
Hallie Kenyon	20
January 6	
Eric Vitello	17
January 9	
Darya O’Sullivan	11
January 10	
Drew Butler	17
January 14	
Martin Luther King Jr.	
January 15	
Jennifer Sarah David	28
January 18	
A.A. Milne	134
January 18	
Ava Verrastro	12
January 18	
Adam Hood	29
January 22	
Maria Merrill	17
January 23	
Irina Dmitriyev	26
January 24	
Matthew Vizzi	17
January 26	
Zack Agro	9
January 26	
Terry Tubbs	
January 28	
Kevin Hall	23
January 29	
Christian Jones	22
January 29	

Join the list! Send your name and birth date (and age if you prefer) to newsletter@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, President	406.7008	mwalsh@ransomoaks.com
Gene Zambarda, Vice President*	689.0924	gzambarda@ransomoaks.com
Jim Golding, Treasurer*, Facilities	689.4919	jgolding@ransomoaks.com
Vacant, Secretary *		
Michael Deck, Landscaping*	689.0988	mdeck@ransomoaks.com
Mike Hartman, Architectural Matters*	406.8557	mhartman@ransomoaks.com
James Burke, P/R Communications*	913.8381	jburke@ransomoaks.com
Forrest Benson, At Large	688.4688	fbenson@ransomoaks.com

Vacant, At Large
* Member Architectural Committee

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, Facilities Managers	691.7352	tkhalter@ransomoaks.com
Terry Collins, News Editor/Designer	980.5470	newsletter@ransomoaks.com



Ransom Oaks Facilities Report



January is here and we are reflecting back in 2015. I don't know how many of you know any of the Ransom Oaks board of directors; but, they dedicate countless hours to the community. They are the people that attend meetings, enforce the covenants and restrictions, work on the budget, and make decisions that affect us all. They have the common goal to work for the good of the community and they handle all business in a professional manner. These volunteers are truly an asset to Ransom Oaks.

As we move ahead to 2016, we hope to continue to provide good service to the community. We have the pools, tennis courts, common ground areas, and buildings that are the basis for people to meet—now is the time to get involved. New faces bring new ideas and that is what makes Ransom Oaks a great place to live. If you would be interested in chairing any activities this year, please give us a call.

The annual ROCC general meeting will be held on **Monday, January 11, 2016 at the Greenwood Recreational Building at 6:30pm**. The election of officers will take place at this time. ***Please make plans to attend.*** If you cannot attend the meeting please take advantage of the absentee ballot/proxy.

We are also in the process of making sure we have current addresses for everyone in the community. If you would like to have your assessment notice forwarded to a different address, please drop us a line or give us a call.

You should receive your assessment notice by mid-January. This year we are again including an option for you to pay online. All the details are included on the notice. If you have any questions regarding your assessment and payment, please give us a call.

Happy 2016!

Tom and Kathy Halter
Ransom Oaks Facilities Managers
tkhalter@ransomoaks.com
716.691.7352 ■

Annual Assessment NOTICE

Amount Due: \$350.00

Due Date: February 29, 2016*

Check Payable to:

Ransom Oaks Community Corporation Or

Pay Online via PayPal or major credit card at

RansomOaks.com/assessments
(additional processing fee)

By Mail to:

Ransom Oaks Community Corp,
Attn: Tom and Kathy Halter,
38 Maricrest Dr., Amherst, NY 14228

Name

Ransom Oaks Address

Other Address for Mailing(1)

Other Address for Mailing(2)

Phone

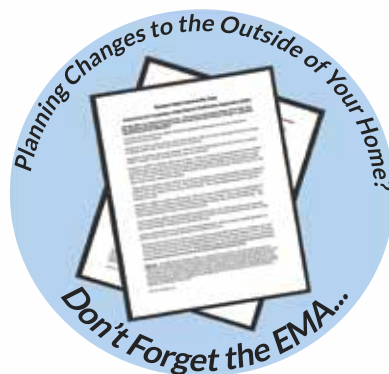
E-mail

Print Names of Permanent Residents at Address :

No envelopes necessary.

- Without tags, you may not use the facilities.
- Tags & guest pass will be mailed in May.

*A 1.5% Monthly Service Charge will apply after February 29, 2016



Ransom Oaks

Volunteer Activities Planner Needed

We're looking for an energetic, idea person interested in getting involved with their community to coordinate events, make new friends and have some fun!

We need you! Your help with ideas and planning are what will take this from a great idea to some fun evenings with new & old friends. From social evenings to outings around town - a show, museum or new restaurant or brewery tour - anything is possible.

If you're interested in being on a committee or would like to plan a adult community event, please give Tom & Kathy Halter a call (691-7352) or email at tkhalter@ransomoaks.com. ■



Ransom Oaks

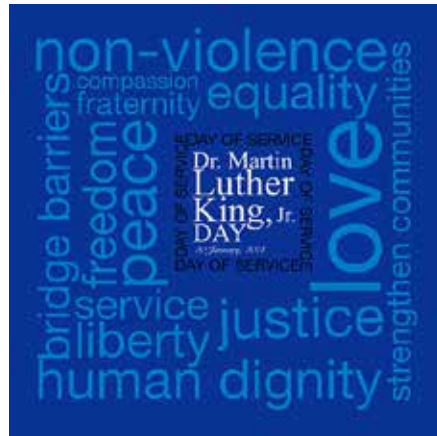
Around Ransom Oaks

Girl Scout? Boy Scout? School Group? Church Group? Volunteer?

Can we help publicize an event or fund raiser? Raise awareness of a cause you are working on?

Let us know what's going on with your group and we can feature you in the newsletter.

It's easy... drop an email to newsletter@ransomoaks.com. Please include date, time, cost, contact info and a brief description of your event. Email pictures in jpg or pdf format. ■



Classified Ads

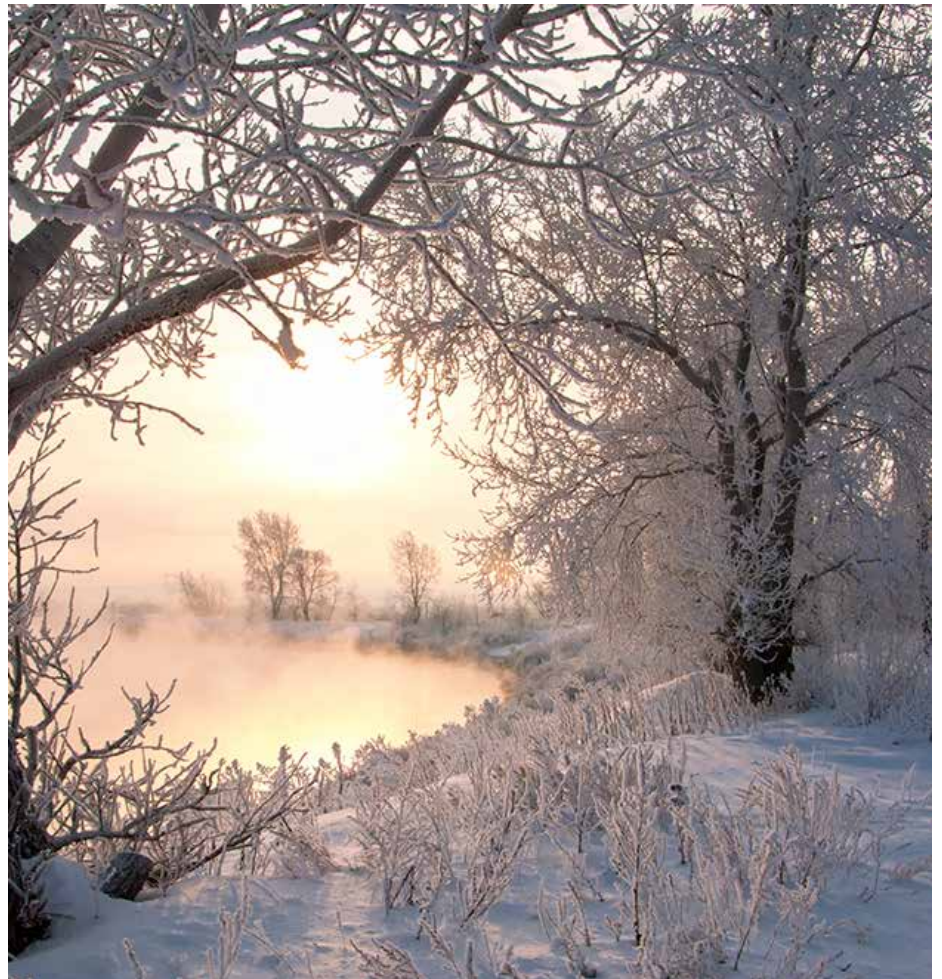
Have an item to sell
or
a service to offer?

Try **Ransom Oaks News Advertising**



Your Vote Counts!

Cast your vote by mail or in person @ our Jan 11 meeting.



Ransom Oaks Proxy & Ballot

Again this year we will continue the random drawing we initiated in 2005. A single proxy/ ballot will be drawn and the winner will have their 2016 annual assessment waived (amount not to exceed the amount of the 2016 assessment). All valid proxy/ballots received prior to the start of the Annual General Meeting (AGM) will be eligible. Members of the ROCC Board of Directors are not eligible for this drawing.

If you are a property owner in Ransom Oaks, have paid all assessments and have no outstanding liens against your property you can cast your vote in one of two ways.

1. Attend the AGM with proper identification and deposit the enclosed Ballot (or one provided at the meeting) in the Ballot box.
2. Vote by Proxy: Complete the enclosed Proxy form, either assigned to someone or left to the recording secretary.

Vote for the candidate(s) of your choice or leave the Ballot blank. Separate the Proxy from the Ballot and fold over and staple the Ballot for privacy.

Place both in the same sealed envelope and either give it to your assignee or mail to :
Ransom Oaks Community Corporation

Attn: Secretary
101 Ransom Oaks Drive
East Amherst, NY, 14051

Note: Once the Proxy is validated, the Ballot will be deposited in the Ballot box.
If mailing this Ballot and Proxy, it must be received no later than January 8, 2016

PROXY

No, I will not attend the AGM on 01/11/2016 and hereby assign my Proxy as follows:

I, the undersigned, being a member in good standing of Ransom Oaks Community Corporation under provisions governing said community, do hereby assign my voting rights to (insert name)* _____, said person being a member in good standing of the community. This Proxy is executed for this AGM, and carries with it the full right of the assignee to cast my vote as the Ballot specifies or if not specified, as he/she sees fit on all business as may properly come before this meeting.

NAME: _____ DATE: _____

ADDRESS: _____

SIGNATURE: _____

Please print your name and address clearly and sign your Proxy so it can be validated.

*If a name is not specified or the assignee is not a member in good standing, this proxy will be assigned to the Board's recording secretary.

Cut here, fold the Ballot and staple it to maintain privacy.

Warning, your completed Proxy must be in the same envelope as this Ballot

BALLOT

Do not vote for more than a total of Three (3)

Forrest Benson (incumbent)	Jim Golding (incumbent)	Peter Calinski
James Scott		
Write In Candidate #1	Name	Address

Ransom Oaks Building Rental

Planning a party or get-together?

Consider hosting your event at one of our Ransom Oaks facilities.

Visit <http://RansomOaks.com/calendar> to check the calendar for availability. Next print, complete & send the Building Request Form to Tom & Kathy Halter, 38 Maricrest Drive, Amherst, 14228.

Be sure to submit your Building Request form two weeks prior to the requested date. ■



Have you found us on FaceBook?

<https://www.facebook.com/pages/Ransom-Oaks/314770135303571>



Have you Liked Us yet?



Easy Changes for the New Year

1. Add a meatless meal once a month or once a week.
4. Add a serving of vegetables at lunchtime.
5. Swap out your sugary drink for a lemon water. Even better, reuse that water bottle.
6. Meet a neighbor for an after dinner walk down the street or

around the block.

7. If you have a desk job, set an alarm and take a stroll each hour.
8. Start the day with a glass of water.
9. Before headed to bed, do a lap around the house. A great opportunity to take care of any evening dishes and prep for the next morning. ■

Reiki?

Ransom Oaks Resident Karen says Reiki is popping up all over the place and many people are confused about what Reiki actually is. The Reiki experience is different to each person, depending on their individual needs. Reiki gives what's needed, whether it's a release of stress, an energy boost or both.

Reiki Is:

- Gentle – Reiki's touch is soft and light
- Harmless - Reiki can have only positive results
- Natural – The highest level of healing is the goal of Reiki

- Balancing - Balance energy level
- Energizing – If your energy is drained Reiki will revive you

What Reiki Isn't:

- Reiki is not religious, rather it's completely nondenominational. You can be of any religion and benefit from Reiki. People of all faiths and beliefs are Reiki practitioners.
- Reiki is not massage or reflexology
- Reiki is a hand's on light to the touch healing system and not a manipulated system. The practitioner lays their hands on the client with permission. The session lasts 45 minutes to an hour. Reiki can also be done long distance with the same results.

Reiki's different for each person. I found it to be relaxing and energizing, peacefully motivating. ■

Mark Your Calendar

ROCC Annual Meeting & Elections



January 11

Martin Luther King Jr. Day January 18



Thank You for
Supporting our
Newsletter
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Meet that Holiday stress

Reiki

Relaxation • Stress Relief •
Balancing Physical & Emotional Energy

Karen, Master Reiki Practitioner/ Teacher
References Available

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Join us at Open House
Sunday, January 31
12:15pm-2:30pm

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6919 Transit Road • East Amherst, NY 14051 • www.stmaryschoolswormville.org • 689-8424

Around Town January

Open Ice Skating, Curling & Ice Bikes

Daily, 10am - 10pm
Canalside, Buffalo, NY

Lace up your skates for The Ice at Canalside presented by BlueCross BlueShield of Western New York! Whether you're on your lunch break, on a date, with family, or with friends you'll love to take a spin on the Canals on Downtown Buffalo's Waterfront!

Cost: Ages 13 & over: \$6, Ages 6-12: \$4, Ages 5 & under: Free. Skate Rentals: \$4 (sizes range: toddler size 3 - adult 13). Locker Rental: \$3 (limited availability)

Details: <http://www.canalsidebuffalo.com>.



Energy Day!

Sat, Jan 23 10am - 4pm
Buffalo Museum of Science

Explore the many aspects of energy with engaging, hands-on activities for all ages! Witness the power of liquid nitrogen and discover what happens to matter when temperatures drop to extreme cold, have a hair-raising experience with static electricity using our Van de Graaff generator, and make your own ultraviolet ray-detecting ring with solar-reactive beads.

Cost: Activities are included with general Museum admission and free for members.

Details: <http://www.sciencebuff.org>.

WinterFEST
Saturday, January 23, 2016
Noon-3:00pm
Harlem Road Community Center
4255 Harlem Rd., Amherst

DESPICABLE ME 2
showing at 3pm
in the Auditorium!

Featuring:

- Horse drawn Wagon Rides
- Outdoor Games
- Mini Golf
- Refreshments
- Minion Crafts & More!

Snow activities
weather dependent

Brought to you by
Town of
Amherst Youth
& Recreation
Department

Larkinville Ice Festival

Sat, Jan 30, 11am - 3pm

LARKIN SQUARE, 745 Seneca
Street, Buffalo, NY 142102

Larkinville Ice Festival is a neighborhood-wide celebration featuring winter festivities at each of the following locations: Larkin Square, The Filling Station Restaurant, Hydraulic Hearth, Flying Bison, Larkin Center of Commerce, and Army-Navy Outfitters.

Cost: Free.

Details: <http://www.larkinsquare.com>

Winter/Spring
2015-2016
Town of
Amherst Youth
& Recreation
Department

www.amherstyouthandrec.org

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& restaurants

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4955 N Bailey Ave. Amherst NY 14226 www.maureenmirandhomes.com

How to Advertise With Us . . .

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

1. Call or email:

Terry Collins, Editor, 980.5470 (be sure to leave a message), newsletter@ransomoaks.com

2. Write check to: Ransom Oaks Community Corporation or **pay via PayPal** to payments@ransomoaks.com. Indicate which month(s) to apply your payment.

3. Mail payment to: Terry Collins, P.O. Box 1356, Grand Island NY 14072

4. Deadline: All ad payments, graphics and ad verbiage must be received by the **15th of month prior** to publication. Without receipt of payment by the 15th of month prior, the ad will not run.

CLASSIFIED AD RATES

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

RESIDENTS: ■ \$8/mo.

NON-RESIDENTS: ■ \$11/mo.

DISPLAY AD RATES

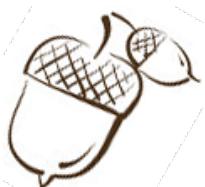
- 2 Col. (4.75" x 1.5" high) Ad: \$37/mo.
- 2 Col. (4.75" x 3" high) Ad: \$65/mo.
- 1/3 Page Ad: 3 Col. x 3" \$85/mo.
- 1/2 Page Ad: 3 Col. x 4.5" \$125/mo.
- 2/3 Page Ad: 3 Col. x 6" \$155/mo.
- Full Page Ad: 3 Col. x 9.5" \$235/mo.

Bakers Dozen - Buy any 12 months of single-size ad & receive 1 month free

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. ■





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www.JulieBrownWNY.com




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Interior/Exterior Painting • Deck & Fence Restoration

Seasonal Yard Cleanup • Topsoil & Mulch

Shrub Trimming • Gutter Cleaning • Any Small, Odd Job

716.400.8581

Ransom Oaks Resident, Tim Maher • adoreyourhome@hotmail.com



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Lois.Robinson@huntrealestate.com
8780 Sheridan Drive
Williamsville, NY 14221



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Ofc. 633-5350

PIANO INSTRUCTION

Ransom Oaks Resident!
Certified experienced teacher,
references available. Lessons taught in your
home or mine: East Amherst, Clarence,
Williamsville, Getzville, Lockport or the
Tonawandas. Call 630.5998 or 598.3722.



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or

a service to offer?

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Majority of vehicles, not applicable with other discounts or specials,
regularly \$44.88 + tax, call for appointment, see store for details, exp
12/312015

January

Please visit our web site at www.ransomoaks.com

**Next ROCC Meeting:
Monday • January 11, 2015
6:30pm @ Greenwood Facility.**

MEETINGS begin at 6:30pm at the Greenwood Drive Recreation Center the 2nd Monday of each month except for Oct 2016 when it's on Tuesday.

RESIDENTS are welcome and encouraged to attend.

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. ■

2016 Meetings

January 11	July 11
February 8	August 8
March 14	September 12
April 11	October 11(Tues)
May 9	November 14
June 13	December 12

Charlesgate Meeting:

second Wednesday of each month.

Forest Edge Meeting:

fourth Tuesday of each month.

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

• **Charlesgate or Glen Oak**

Clover Management, 688.4503

• **Briarwoods, Forest Edge, or Woodgate**

Andruschat Real Estate Service,
688.4757

• **Vandalism, Animal Control or Security Concerns** Amherst Police, 689.1311

• **Swormville Fire**, 688.7055

**Jan 15
Deadline for
Ransom Oaks News
Feb issue**



Ransom Oaks

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