



# 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

April 2016

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

## Hello April!

• Tax Day • **Earth Day** • Passover Begins • Administrative Professionals Day •



### Ransom Oaks

#### *Who-to-Call*

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

- **Charlesgate, Forest Edge or Glen Oak**  
Clover Management, 688.4503
- **Briarwoods 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

### Ransom Oaks

## Board Meeting Highlights

March 14, 2016

- No residents attended the meeting.
- We are within \$1,700 of the planned budget.
- Pool and Tennis rules were approved. We will arrange for Pickle Ball to be played at one of the courts. It will be lined for both Tennis and Pickle Ball.
- We will engage a professional pool company to perform a pre-season check of our systems.
- We are testing another method of collecting delinquent assessments.
- 225 residents out of 1127 have not paid their 2016 assessments by the due date of February 29. They will be subject to a late charge and interest.
- The Ransom Oaks Meeting Room remodeling program has been completed for a cost of \$24,600 which was considerably less than the first proposals.
- The Greenwood pool will be resurfaced before the 2016 season.
- 12 lifeguards from last year have been invited back. There may be a need to hire additional lifeguards. An application can be made via our website at <http://ransomsoaks.com/openings>. ■

## Learn What's Happening in Our Community

@ the ROCC Monthly Meeting

2nd Mondays  
Apr 11, May 9, June 13

(details on the back cover)

### In This

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# Happy Birthday!

## Our April Birthday Friends



<b>Ann Merrill</b> .....	??
April 1	
<b>Juliette Bassanelli</b> .....	26
April 6	
<b>James Sawaya</b> .....	29
April 6	
<b>Ayden Hansen</b> .....	14
April 7	
<b>Danny Taylor</b> .....	23
April 7	
<b>Andrew Marsden</b> .....	18
April 7	
<b>Yosseline Eisenbaum</b> .....	18
April 9	
<b>Julia Tirone</b> .....	23
April 9	
<b>Allison Greiner</b> .....	11
April 9	
<b>John Killigrew</b> .....	21
April 11	
<b>Courtney Herlan</b> .....	14
April 12	
<b>Andrew Kissel</b> .....	14
April 14	
<b>Carl Copeland</b> .....	23
April 18	
<b>Chase Verrastro</b> .....	13
April 18	
<b>Sydney Deck</b> .....	17
April 21	
<b>Michael Goodrich</b> .....	28
April 22	
<b>Matthew O'Connor</b> .....	22
April 22	
<b>Jessica Long</b> .....	29
April 22	
<b>Matt Lester</b> .....	25
April 22	
<b>Erica Lyskawa</b> .....	23
April 23	
<b>William Shakespeare</b> .....	452
April 23	
<b>Paul Cook</b> .....	23
April 26	
<b>Meghan Taylor</b> .....	23
April 26	
<b>Chris Lester</b> .....	27
April 26	
<b>Michael Moeller</b> .....	22
April 29	
<b>Elanor Harris</b> .....	17
April 30	

**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.

<b>Mark Walsh, President</b>	406.7008	mwalsh@ransomoaks.com
<b>Gene Zambarda, Vice President*</b>	689.0924	gzambarda@ransomoaks.com
<b>Jim Golding, Treasurer*, Facilities</b>	689.4919	jpgolding@ransomoaks.com
<b>Pete Calinski, Secretary *</b>	616.0088	pcalinski@ransomoaks.com
<b>Michael Deck, Landscaping*</b>	689.0988	mdeck@ransomoaks.com
<b>Mike Hartman, Architectural Matters*</b>	406.8557	mhartman@ransomoaks.com
<b>James Burke, P/R Communications*</b>	913.8381	jburke@ransomoaks.com
<b>Forrest Benson, At Large</b>	688.4688	fbenson@ransomoaks.com
<b>James Scott, At Large</b>	636.1959	jscott@ransomoaks.com

\* 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

<b>Kathy &amp; Tom Halter, Facilities Managers</b>	691.7352	tkhalter@ransomoaks.com
<b>Terry Collins, News Editor/Designer</b>	980.5470	newsletter@ransomoaks.com



## Ransom Oaks

# Facilities Report



Spring is just around the corner and with that comes all sorts of outside activities.

Tennis courts will be available by mid-April; buildings are available for your use by making reservations through Tom and Kathy Halter. The best way to plan a gathering at one of the buildings is to check the calendar on our website ([www.ransomoaks.com](http://www.ransomoaks.com)) for availability. The required form is also on our website for downloading. Once you have picked your date, give us a call. **Please allow about two weeks for all reservations.** Beginning in May we will start taking reservations for pool parties.

We are **currently contacting our staff from last year** to see who is returning. At this point we do not know if we will have any openings this season. If you would like to apply for any openings should they occur, please go to our website or contact us (Tom or Kathy Halter).

The **May newsletter will contain pool/tennis rules as well as activities** for the summer. We will try to keep everyone busy again this summer!

If you have not paid your 2016 Ransom Oaks Assessment, it is now past due. Please contact Tom or Kathy Halter to arrange for payment. These fees cover the calendar year and are mandatory for all Ransom Oaks residents. Lien proceedings will begin in May.

Look for next month's newsletter for another year of fun and activities for all. Summer in Ransom Oaks is worth waiting for! Set some time aside to enjoy your facilities this coming season!

Tom and Kathy Halter  
Ransom Oaks Facilities Managers  
[tkhalter@ransomoaks.com](mailto:tkhalter@ransomoaks.com)  
716.691.7352 ■

## Ransom Oaks

# Summer Employment Opportunities

Join us for a summer at the Pool.

This year we are hiring **Lifeguards** and a dedicated **part-time Gate Security Person**.

Certification is required for Lifeguards. Gate Security Person applicants must have experience & references.

To **apply online**, visit our online application form directly at <http://www.ransomoaks.com/openings>. For your convenience, the form is divided into multiple pages. Complete the form and "Submit" to easily apply. ■



## 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](mailto:newsletter@ransomoaks.com). Please include date, time, cost, contact info and a brief description of your event. Email pictures in jpg or pdf format. ■



## Planning a Party or Event?



Let Ransom Oaks help with the location.

Host your event or party at one of our Ransom Oaks facilities.

Details at [RansomOaks.com/Facilities](http://RansomOaks.com/Facilities).





### Around Town

## Only Rain Down The Storm Drain

A friendly reminder from the Town of Amherst Highway Department.



It is illegal to dump any substance in to the storm sewers - this includes but is not limited to *cleaning solutions, paint, grease, or gasoline.*

If you have any questions on how to dispose of a specific substance please call (631-7117) or email the Highway Department.

Source: <http://www.amherst.ny.us> ■

### Around Town

## Amherst Teen Idol Open Auditions

Open auditions for amateur youth soloists ages 12 - 20 will be held on Friday, April 8 from 5:30-7:30pm at the Boulevard Mall, center court near Macy's.

Participants must be prepared to sing a capella and complete an application. For further information visit the website below or call 631-7132.

Sponsored by Amherst Youth & Recreation and the Boulevard Mall.



Details: <http://www.amherst.ny.us> ■



## Tax Facts



- The word "tax" is from the Latin *taxo*, meaning "estimate."
- The number of words in Atlas Shrugged is 645,000. The Bible has about 700,000 words. The number of words in the Federal Tax Code: 3,700,000.
- In 1691, England taxed the number of windows on a house. Consequently, houses began to be built with very few windows or people would close up existing windows. When people began to suffer health problems from lack of windows/air, the tax was finally repealed in 1851.
- Russian Emperor Peter the Great placed a tax on beards in 1705. He hoped that the tax would encourage men to have a clean-shaven look that was popular in Western Europe.
- One of the contributing factors to the French Revolution was a salt tax called the *gabelle*. It was one of the most hated and unequal taxes.
- England has a tax on televisions. Color TVs are taxed more than black-and-white TVs. However, if a blind person has a television, he or she has to pay only half the tax.

Source: <http://facts.randomhistory.com/tax-facts.html>

## LUIGI'S PIZZA & CATERING



9950 Transit Road  
East Amherst, NY 14051  
716-639-8162

*Minutes from Ransom Oaks!  
Dine in or take out!*

### Special Offers for Ransom Oaks Residents

**Monday - Thursdays**

**Buy one dinner get one dinner for ½ price**

*Up to a \$10 value*

**Tuesday "Kid's" Night**

**Children EAT FOR FREE!**

*Includes one item per child from the "Kid's" Menu*

*Must be 10 years of age or younger*

*\*Show this ad to redeem \* Dine in only \* Valid through 5/12/16*

Around Town  
**April**

**Local Restaurant Week**

April 11-17

Restaurants around  
Buffalo



Local Restaurant Week is about celebrating the local independently owned restaurants in Western New York and promoting our unique cultural scene. Join us in celebrating the vibrant local independent restaurant scene in WNY during Local Restaurant Week!

**Cost:** Meals priced at \$20.16, \$30.16, \$40.16 depending on location.

**Details:** <http://www.localrestaurantweek.com>. ■



**Wild 'n Weird**

Saturday, April 23

Buffalo Museum of  
Science



Bring your little ones to  
meet our wild ones!

On Saturday, April 23rd from 10am-4pm, join the Buffalo Museum of Science for Wild & Weird! Get up close and personal with exotic creatures and learn intriguing facts about them! Jeff Musial and his Nickel City Reptiles Nickel City Reptiles & Exotics will be on site throughout the day with his traveling zoo in addition to stage shows during the day. Visit Biodiversity - our newest permanent exhibit too!

**Cost:** Nickel City Reptiles and Exotics shows are \$5 for non-members and \$4 for members. All other Wild n' Weird activities are included with museum admission and free for members.

**Details:** Call 716.896.5200, <http://www.sciencebuff.org>. ■

**Mark Your Calendar**



**Tax Day**  
April 15



**Earth Day**  
April 22

**Passover  
Starts**  
April 22



**Administrative  
Professionals  
Day**  
April 27



# Ransom Oaks Homeowners!

Hi! Are you thinking of selling your home and downsizing? I would like to introduce myself, I am Maureen Mirand and I have lived in Ransom Oaks for 20+ years, raised my triplets here and know the challenges of now having to downsize as they grow up & move out!

**Give me a call today to discuss your options! (716) 866-9959**

- **Top 10 % of Realtors in WNY As Published In Business First**
- **Have helped hundreds of families sell their property & find the perfect "new place"!**



Keller Williams Realty Buffalo Northtowns  
4955 North Bailey Ave, Suite 100, Amherst, NY 14226  
Office (716) 832-3300  
Each office is independently owned and operated



# Looking To Downsize?

# April Classifieds

**Reiki**  
 Relaxation • Stress Relief •  
 Balancing Physical & Emotional Energy  
 Karen, Master Reiki Practitioner/ Teacher  
 References Available  
 Sessions in your home or mine  
 Call 245-9079

**AMHERST HANDYMAN**  
 House service & repairs. No job too small.  
 25 years experience, FREE estimate.  
 Available nights & weekends.  
 Reliable fixing at your convenience.  
 Call **ANDRE 688-8016 or 597-7655.**  
*Ransom Oaks Resident*

**HIGH SCHOOL LEVEL MATH TUTOR**  
 Experienced high school math teacher available for tutoring  
*Ransom Oaks Resident*  
*Flexible schedule*  
 Text/call **(716)553-7822**

**Parking Space Needed**  
 Parking Space Needed for Summer Car in Forest Edge  
 Give me a call if you have an extra or guest spot to rent for the summer  
 Call **George @ 480-8222**

**Charlesgate Apt Available**  
 Rental unit in Charlesgate available April 1st. 3 bedrooms, 1 & 1/2 bathrooms. Appliances and central air. Finished basement with laundry. No pets.  
 Call **983-5099 for more information.**

**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.**

**Ransom Oaks Classified Ads...**  
**Get Your Word Out**

# Lois Robinson-Fullam

*Licensed Associate Real Estate Broker*

**30 Year Resident of Ransom Oaks**  
**NYS Certified Real Estate Instructor**



**Serving Ransom Oaks Buyers & Sellers for over 20 Years.**

**Direct: 445-2563**

Lois.Robinson@huntrealestate.com



Office: 633-5350

8780 Sheridan Dr., Williamsville, NY 14221

## *Catholics Come Home: Reconnect with Your Faith*

*Have questions answered, past hurts addressed, our faith and worship explained*

**April 7, 2016, 7:30 PM**

*St. Mary's Parish Center, Transit Road, Swormville*  
*More Info.? Tom @ 689-7448 or Carol @ 741-8490*

## **Pancake Breakfast**

**Apr 17, May 8, Jun 12**

**8am - 12:30pm**

*Jurek Post of the American Legion, 655 New Road at Smith Road*

All breakfasts include "fresh off the grill" all you can eat buttermilk pancakes, "Egglands Best" eggs, link and patty sausages, juice, coffee, and tea. ■



## **Earth Day?**

This observance arose from an interest in gathering national support for environmental issues.

In 1970, San Francisco activist John McConnell and Wisconsin Senator Gaylord Nelson separately asked Americans to join in a grassroots demonstration. McConnell chose the spring equinox (March 21, 1970) and Nelson chose April 22. Millions of people participated, and today Earth Day continues to be widely celebrated with events on both dates.

The most common practice of celebration is to plant new trees for Earth Day.

Source: The Old Farmer's Almanac. ■





# 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. ■




**BOB STEPHENS HUCK**  
**Plumbing & Heating, Inc.**  
 Complete Plumbing Service for Western New York  
 Repairs & Remodeling **632.1149**

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Mention this ad & **SAVE \$15.00** on any service




**Adore Your Home**  
 • Handyman •

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

**FREE**  
 Estimates  
 INSURED



**HEIM ELECTRIC, INC.**  
*THE Original Electrician for Ransom Oaks*

Changing your lighting can be life changing.  
 Update and add value to your home.

**574.8542**





**BUFFALO OVERHEAD DOOR, Inc.**  
*"Ransom Oaks Own Door Company"*

Featuring:  
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 Free Estimates  
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 4455 Millersport Highway • East Amherst




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 Have an item to sell  
 OR  
 a service to offer?  
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 Free estimates. Call **877.4538** or  
**Emergency 448.8967**. PH Horvath Plumbing



# Affordable Advertising



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*Bringing You Home*

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- Ransom Oaks resident for 20+ years
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- Recognized for Sales & Service Excellence

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JulieBrown@me.com  
www.JulieBrownWNY.com

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**Mention Ransom Oaks News**

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- \*Road Test
- \*Plus More....

Majority of vehicles, not applicable with other discounts or specials, regularly \$59.88 + tax, call for appointment, see store for details, exp 4/30/2016

# April

Please visit our web site at [www.ransomoaks.com](http://www.ransomoaks.com)

**Next ROCC Meeting:  
Monday • April 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**

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

**Charlesgate Meeting:**

second Wednesday of each month.

**Forest Edge Meeting:**

fourth Tuesday of each month.

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

- **Charlesgate, Forest Edge or Glen Oak**  
Clover Management, 688.4503
- **Briarwoods or Woodgate**  
Andruschat Real Estate Service, 688.4757
- **Vandalism, Animal Control or Security Concerns** Amherst Police, 689.1311
- **Swormville Fire**, 688.7055

**April 15  
Deadline for  
Ransom Oaks News  
May issue**



**Ransom Oaks**

Community Corporation  
101 Ransom Oaks Drive  
East Amherst, NY 14051

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