



Ransom Oaks News

A Neighborhood Publication

Sponsored by Ransom Oaks Community Corporation & Our Advertisers

www.RansomOaks.com

2017 Thirty-Seven Years of Ransom Oaks News

March 2017

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

March Spring Hello!

• Ash Wednesday • Daylight Saving Time begins • St. Patrick's Day • Spring Begins • Purim •

Ransom Oaks Looking Forward with Pete Calinski



Hi, I'm Pete Calinski. In February I assumed the presidency of Ransom Oaks from Mark Walsh who led our community for nearly 10 years. I know that I have big shoes to fill and hope I can serve Ransom Oaks as well as Mark did.

For those of you that don't know me, my family and I have called Ransom Oaks home for nearly 40 years. Some of you may know my wife, Ann Calinski, who worked at Dodge Elementary for over 20 years or perhaps you remember my daughter Diane who was a lifeguard and did a lot of arts and crafts with your children. Overall, my family and I have enjoyed our time in this community and I want to say that I have always believed that Ransom Oaks is the best place to live in all of Western New York.

I remember back when I told a co-worker that I was building a home in Ransom Oaks, he said, "Wow, that's where all the vice presidents live!" Later I met a family that desperately wanted to live in Ransom Oaks but just

Continued on page 3

Ransom Oaks

Annual Garage Sale

Yes, it *is* only March but... with our early Spring comes early spring cleaning.



Please keep the June **Annual Ransom Oaks Garage Sale** in mind as you clean. Many seasoned Garage Sellers from across Western New York look forward to our community-wide sale!

Watch for details in upcoming issues of *Ransom Oaks News*! ■



Join Us...

at the ROCC Monthly Meeting

be a part of what's happening in Ransom Oaks

Mon, Mar 13

Mon, Apr 10

(details on the back cover)

Ransom Oaks

Who-to-Call

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

- **Charlesgate, Forest Edge or Glen Oak**
Clover Management, 204.2771
- **Briarwoods or Woodgate** Andruschat Real Estate Service, 688.4757
- **Ransom Oaks Architectural Matters** (regarding Single-family homes ONLY), 406.8557 (archcomm@ransom-oaks.com)
- **Ransom Oaks Facilities Manager** (including Clubhouse Rentals)
Tom and Kathy Halter, 691.7352
- **Comments** President of R.O.C.C.,
Pete Calinski, 616.0088
- **Vandalism, Animal Control or Security Concerns** Amherst Police, 689.1311
- **Swormville Fire**, 688.7055

In This

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- 2 Ransom Oaks Board of Directors
- 3 Facilities Report: Tom & Kathy Halter
- 6 Around Town: March Events
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Happy Birthday!

March Celebrations



Dr. Seuss	113
March 2	
Logan Marino	2
March 3	
Gabrielle Rose	23
March 4	
Taylor Vogel	16
March 7	
Alex Perry Ciambella	10
March 8	
Zachary Toner	17
March 9	
William Walkowski	21
March 9	
Benedict Gregory IV	15
March 11	
Aurora Tyska	11
March 13	
Catherine Walkowski	17
March 14	
Bradley Toner	22
March 15	
Lauren Greiner	18
March 18	
William Rapp	9
March 18	
Sydney McKinley	18
March 20	
Tyler Penberthy	22
March 20	
Andrew White	23
March 22	
Doug Newman	41
March 23	
Alexandra Tubbs	26
March 23	
Kaitlyn Vogel	14
March 27	
Isabella Fueter	20
March 29	
Todd Witt	16
March 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.

Pete Calinski, President *	616.0088	pcalinski@ransomoaks.com
Gene Zambarda, Vice President *	689.0924	gzambarda@ransomoaks.com
James W. Scott, Secretary *	636.1959	jscott@ransomoaks.com
Jim Golding, Treasurer	689.4919	jpgolding@ransomoaks.com
Forrest Benson	688.4688	fbenson@ransomoaks.com
James Burke *	913.8381	jburke@ransomoaks.com
Michael Deck *	689.0988	mdeck@ransomoaks.com
Mike Hartman *	406.8557	mhartman@ransomoaks.com
Tony Ippolito	639.8999	aippolito@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

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



Ransom Oaks

Facilities Report



This early spring has us excited with warm weather plans 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 **getting certified to become a lifeguard**. Please go to <http://www.ransomoaks.com/openings> to complete & submit the application. Please remember that all life guards must be certified by May. At this time, we do not know how many openings we will have, but all applications will be kept on file.

Assessment notices were due by March 1st. You can expect a **late notice in early March** if you have not paid this year's assessment. Please remember this assessment is for the calendar year of 2016 and mandatory for all ROCC residents. At this point, all **assessments must be paid by mail**, not online. Please note that we will not send pool passes to residents with unpaid service charges or liens on their property.

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

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

Ransom Oaks

Looking Forward with Pete (cont'd from page 1)

couldn't do it. They bought a home nearby and friends kidded them that they lived in "Almost Ransom Oaks". One of our daughters lives near Raleigh, NC and met some young women from Grand Island. They knew about Ransom Oaks and were envious that she grew up here. Ransom Oaks is more than just a neighborhood, it has become a lifestyle that exhibits a strong sense of community and history that past residents are proud to be a part of.



I remember when Ransom Oaks had a ski club. I remember when the pools used to have swim teams that competed in "swim meets" against each other. I remember arts and crafts events that kids were excited to participate in each year. How many of you still have a Ransom Oaks tie-dyed t-shirt? Others have described free golf lessons for Ransom Oaks children. Many of these activities have waned and I hope to reverse that.

Also, I have learned of many things that other communities do to create a stronger community. Our daughter's community outside of Raleigh is about half the size of Ransom Oaks but similar in many ways. The homes are about the same size, they have a community swimming pool and tennis courts. In addition they have a fair sized lawn area with a band stand. During the summer months they have "Saturday Movie Night in the Park" or "Friday Night Music" where they get local bands that are starting out and will play for little or no cost. Around dusk on these nights, the families all lay out their blankets on the lawn. The children all play together. There are food trucks, ice cream vendors and more. And, I did see more than one parent reach into a cooler and refill a cup from a distinctive bottle.

Our son lives in a community in Florida. It includes a banquet facility so they can have "Sunday Brunch". It is open to the public but sometimes residents get the first mimosa at no charge. Other activities include "Trivia Night", Halloween Costume Parade, Holiday Decoration Competition, Local Beer & Wine Tasting Sessions and you can't forget the Chili Cook-Off.

I don't know how many of these activities we can implement but I would like to try. Your Board is here to help the neighborhood succeed but **we need residents like you to get involved. Together we can be committed to reinvigorating this great community and building on its already strong history.** Please consider joining us at our next meeting on March 13 at 6:30 PM at the Greenwoods Meeting Room.

Feel free to contact me if you have any questions, and I look forward to seeing you around Ransom Oaks.

Pete Calinski
pcalinski@ransomoaks.com
716-616-0088 ■

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

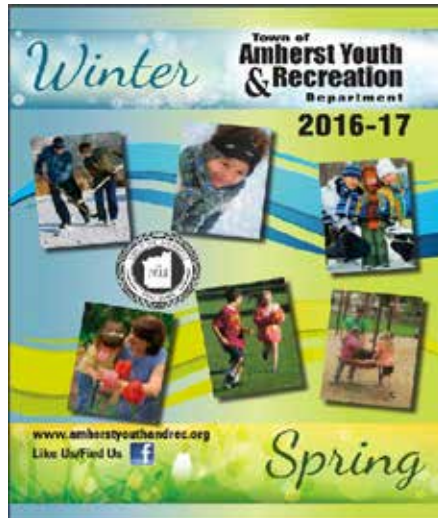


Around Town

Electronic Recycling

Looking to recycle your electronic items? ATR (Advanced Technology Recycling) at

200 Fire Tower Drive in Tonawanda, NY is a great choice. ATR accepts computers, stereos, printers, other electronic equipment and all types of televisions. All items are accepted at no charge. Only item not accepted is damaged televisions. Check out their website: <http://www.atrecycle.com/locations/electronic-recycling-buffalo-ny/> ■



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. ■

Around Town

Curbside Metal Pickup

Residents are asked to call our Dispatch at 631-7117. Pick up will be on a bi-weekly basis and residents will be given a date for pickup at the time of their call. You may also drop off metal at the Amherst Highway Department from 7 am to 3:30pm Monday thru Friday. ■

Ransom Oaks

Getting Out, Meeting Neighbors & Having Fun

We're looking for energetic, idea-filled people 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 have an idea for an event and can help with planning a family or adult community event, stop by our monthly meeting (2nd Monday most months), give Tom & Kathy Halter a call (691-7352) or email at tkhalter@ransomoaks.com. ■

Around Town

National Grid Tree Trimming

National Grid will start trimming trees in Amherst this Spring. The work will be performed by Nation Grid workers or certified arborists. If you have any further questions regarding this routine vegetation maintenance, please call National Grid at 1-800-642-4272. Please click the document link below for further information on how National Grid practices vegetation management. ■





Spring Ahead March 12



Around Town

Have You Recycled Today?

Just a reminder - Residents are encouraged to recycle more - by doing so there is less that goes to the landfills, it's better for the environment & it helps keep refuse costs down. The most common recycled items are paper and plastic. If you have any questions regarding recycling guidelines please consult the Modern Disposal circular. Thank you. ■



Mark Your Calendar



Daylight Savings Time
March 12

St. Patrick's Day
March 17



Spring Begins
March 20

April Fools Day
April 1



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?

Around Town
March

Free 1st Fridays

1st Friday, every month
10am-10pm
Albright Knox Art Gallery
1285 Elmwood Ave, Buffalo, NY 14222

Free 2nd Fridays

2nd Friday, every month
4pm-8pm
Burchfield Penney Art Center
1300 Elmwood Avenue, Buffalo, NY 14222

Free 3rd Fridays

3rd Friday, every month
10am-8pm
The Buffalo History Museum
1 Museum Ct, Buffalo, NY 14216 ■



Open Ice Skating

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

Lace up your skates for The Ice at Canalside presented by BlueCross BlueShield of Western New York!

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

Pancake Breakfast

Mar 19, Apr 23, May 14, Jun 11

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. ■



Lois Robinson-Fullam

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St. Patrick's Day Parade

Sunday, March 19, 2pm
Delaware Avenue, Buffalo

The Parade is Sunday, March 19th at 2PM on Delaware Avenue. The Parade route is north on Delaware Avenue from the McKinley Monument to North Street. ■



Live at O'Larkin

Friday, March 17 5 - 8 pm
Larkin Square



The celebration will feature dozens of food trucks favorites, live music, and festive drinks including the much anticipated GREEN beer!

This family-friendly event will take place under the heated boardwalk. Festive attire encouraged. Plenty of free parking available. This event is free, family-friendly and open to the public!

Cost: Free

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



Aperitivo

RESTAURANT & BAR

9430 Transit Road (North of Casey Rd)
East Amherst, NY 14051
716-689-3663

www.AperitivoRestaurant.com

Monday - Thursday 11am-10pm Friday 11am-11pm
Saturday 4pm-11pm Sunday - closed

Ransom Oaks Residents

20% off entire bill
must present this coupon
Valid thru 3/31/17

Mondays

Kids eat FREE

certain restrictions apply

Delivery available through grubhub.com or skipthedishes.com

March Fun Facts

The 3rd month of the year in both the Julian and Gregorian calendars.

The 2nd month to have 31 days.

In the Northern Hemisphere, the *meteorological* beginning of spring occurs on the first day of March.

The March equinox on the 20th or 21st marks the *astronomical* beginning of spring in the Northern Hemisphere and the beginning of autumn in the Southern Hemisphere, where September is the seasonal equivalent of the Northern Hemisphere's March.

Birthstones are **aquamarine** and **bloodstone** which symbolize courage.

Flower is the **daffodil**.

Source wikipedia.com ■

Getting Out, Early Spring Tips

Once the snow melts, take a walk around the outside of your house...

Remove any lingering holiday lights before your trees or bushes bud.

Check that the critters haven't made your home their home,

Check that your siding or roofing are not damaged and

Be sure your furnace vent is clear of any debris which may have blown beside your house.

Prepare for bird nesting season.

Enjoy the spring bulbs blooming. ■



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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, Maroon Technology, 1879 Whitehaven Road, Suite 110, 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

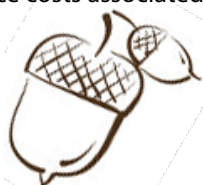
- 2 Col. (4.75" x 1.5" high) Ad: \$37/mo.
- 2 Col. (4.75" x 3" high) Ad: \$65/mo.
- 1/3 Page Ad: 3 Col. x 3" \$85/mo.
- 1/2 Page Ad: 3 Col. x 4.5" \$125/mo.
- 2/3 Page Ad: 3 Col. x 6" \$155/mo.
- Full Page Ad: 3 Col. x 9.5" \$235/mo.

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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Ransom Oaks Resident

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Contact Georgia @ 852-5050

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

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March

Please visit our web site at RansomOaks.com

**Next ROCC Meeting:
Monday • March 13, 2017
6:30pm @ Greenwood Facility.**

MEETINGS begin at 6:30pm at the Greenwood Drive Recreation Center the 2nd Monday of each month except for the October 2017 meeting which is 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. ■

2017 Meetings

March 13	August 14
April 10	September 11
May 8	October 10
June 12	November 13
July 10	December 11

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, 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
-

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



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