



Ransom Oaks News

A Neighborhood Publication

Sponsored by Ransom Oaks Community Corporation & Our Advertisers

www.RansomOaks.com

2018 Thirty-Eight Years of Ransom Oaks News

June 2018

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

Around Ransom Oaks

Side With Safety...

Walking on the golf course, while the game is in play, is dangerous. Golfers have paid for the use of golf course property to play a game, where the average speed of golf ball flight is near 100 mph. This has been known to cause injuries such as, concussions, hematomas and broken bones.

Please respect the game and players and be patient in knowing that there is potential for future fun on the golf course with ideas the new owner is entertaining. ■

Don't Miss Inside this Edition...

Summer Activities Insert

Ransom Oaks Garage Sale Locations (back of insert) ■

In This

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- 7 How to Advertise with Ransom Oaks

Around Ransom Oaks

Paula's Donuts Fundraiser

Hello Ransom Oaks Neighbors!

I am running a Paula's Donuts fundraiser to raise money for my Eagle Scout project - the renovation of the Bramhill playground!

I am selling coupons for a dozen Paula's Donuts.

Who doesn't love donuts!?

Coupons are \$15 each, and are valid at any Paula's Donuts location. You can pick 12 of your favorite donuts that Paula's sells.

Please let me know if you are interested by contacting me at cgstroth@gmail.com or (716) 860-1697.

Connor Stroth ■



Ransom Oaks Annual Garage Sale

Fri & Sat, June 15 & 16, 9am to 4pm



See back of Activities Insert for a partial listing of sales.

Ransom Oaks

Who-to-Call

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

- **Ransom Oaks (Facilities)** 716-508-ROCC, facilitiesmanager@ransomoaks.com
- **Brendans Court LMM Properties**, 693-4670
- **Charlesgate, or Glen Oak** Clover Management, 204-2771
- **Forest Edge R & D Property Management of WNY**, cindy@rdmanagementofwny.com, 688-2083
- **Briarwoods or Woodgate** Andruchat Real Estate Service, 688-4757
- **Ransom Oaks Architectural Matters** (regarding Single-family homes ONLY) archcomm@ransomoaks.com)
- **Comments** President of ROCC, André Lam, alam@ransomoaks.com
- **Vandalism, Animal Control or Security Concerns** Amherst Police, 689-1311
- **Swormville Fire**, 688-7055



Earth Day @ Ransom Oaks

Our June Birthday Celebrations



Patrick Hourihan	27
June 2	
Jenise Dixon-McMillan	52
June 2	
George Attea	20
June 4	
Maureen Hourihan	
June 4	
Billy Merrill IV	16
June 5	
Tim Everett	39
June 5	
Braden Mitri	11
June 5	
Mitch Nass	31
June 11	
Andy Lee	23
June 15	
Mackenzie Bogdan	5
June 17	
Kaity Swanekamp	31
June 18	
Madeline Nadrich	16
June 20	
Evan Henderson	31
June 21	
Chris Jablonski	49
June 21	
Katherine Klein	26
June 22	
Kennedy Copeland	31
June 23	
Stephanie Everett	9
June 23	
David Lyskawa	21
June 24	
George Orwell	114
June 26	
Susan Howard	23
June 27	
Ella Claire Planter	23
June 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.

André Lam, President	alam@ransomoaks.com
Boris Roginsky, Vice President	broginsky@ransomoaks.com
Alan Montesanti, Treasurer	amontesanti@ransomoaks.com
Tammy Bender Davis, Secretary	tdavis@ransomoaks.com
Andrzej Ogiba, Director of Facilities	aogiba@ransomoaks.com
Christopher Bogdan, Director of Communications	cbogdan@ransomoaks.com
Jen Stewart, Director of Safety & Recreation	jstewart@ransomoaks.com
Bill Klein, Director of Landscaping	bklein@ransomoaks.com
Vacant, At-Large	

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

Facilities Manager - please see contact info on page 1 for your community
Newsletter newsletter@ransomoaks.com



President's Update

On Wednesday May 14th ROCC held its monthly meeting at the Glenn Oak golf course club house. Tim Fries, the new owner of the golf course, welcomed our community and shared both his short term and long term plans for the golf course. We are all excited to work closely with our neighbor and develop a symbiotic relationship. A successfully golf course enhances the value of our community.

The single largest complaint the golf course has received from community members is the in appropriate use of trees as restrooms in the areas of the course furthest away from the club house. To alleviate this problem, Tim Fries has added some portable bathrooms to the course. There have been concerns raised by homeowners that these structures are not the most beautiful to look at, but in the short term that is the only viable solution to the existing problem. Tim is working with the town, his architects and engineers to find out what resources it would take add both water fountains and flush toilets in the area(s) furthest away from the club house. Those changes would require significant financial investment and cannot be installed overnight. We appreciate the golf course management taking the concerns of our residents serious and providing an immediate solution to the problem.

The ROCC management along with the Glenn Oak golf course management want to remind all residents that the perimeter path of the gold course is NOT open to the public for walking. ROCC residents do not have the legal right to use the path. The issue was litigated at great expense to everyone involved. Golf balls today can reach speeds in excess of 100 miles per hour. Getting hit by a golf ball at those speeds could cause significant injury.

Another major problem that was raised at the meeting was the large amount of dog excrement that was collected by Tim Fries and his crew during the spring cleanup along the perimeter path. Tim stated that he collected more the 3 bushels of dog waste. This problem is not only happening along the perimeter path of the gold course, but also throughout our entire community. There are two issues. First, owners are not always picking up the dog waste when they are walking their pet. Secondly, some owners are picking up the waste, but then throw the plastic bags to the side of the road or into woods. Clearly this is totally unacceptable behavior by the dog owners. It is gross to leave a mess for others to clean up, and the dog excrement is also food for vermin such as rats. Please don't feed the rats.

The last item I want to address is the issue of dogs that are off leash. There have been a number of incidents reported where dogs that were off leash had interaction with other dogs or people that caused concern. The matter is simple, according to Amherst town code dogs must always be on a leash. The only exception is when you take you dog to a dog park. We are fortunate the have the Amherst Bark Park around the corner from us on Smith Road.

Please be a good neighbor and remember to follow Amherst town code. Pickup after your dog and keep them on leash when you are outside. This ensured the health and safety of everyone. For clarity I have copied below the two parts of section 99 from the Amherst Town code as it relates to dog leash law and dog feces:

A. No person, firm or corporation owning, keeping, harboring or having the care, custody or control of any dog shall allow or permit such dog to be off the premises of such person, firm or corporation in the Town of Amherst, New York, outside the Village of Williamsville, unless restrained by a chain or leash, including retractable leashes, not exceeding six feet in length and under the control of a responsible person, except as designated by the Town of Amherst in duly authorized and posted dog parks. Whenever a dog is found off the premises of the person, firm or corporation owning, keeping, harboring or having the care, custody or control of such dog not restrained as above provided, it shall be presumed that such person, firm or corporation permitted or allowed such dog to be off such premises in violation of this section. [Amended 3-21-2011 by L.L. No. 1-2011; 6-6-2011 by L.L. No. 15-2011]

E. Feces. [Added 8-16-1993]



(1) No person owning, harboring, keeping, walking or in charge of any dog shall cause, suffer or allow such dog to soil, defile, defecate on or commit any nuisance on any sidewalk, gutter, street, play area, park or other public area or on any private property without the permission of the owner of such property. This prohibition shall not apply to that portion of a street lying between the curblines or pavement edges where no curbs exist, which portion may be used to curb a dog, provided that any person who so curbs a dog shall immediately remove all feces left by such dog as follows: [Amended 10-17-2011 by L.L. No. 24-2011]

(a) Individuals may place feces directly in a public or private sanitary sewer through deposit in a toilet on premises occupied by the individual owning or who curbs the dog. Plastic bags shall not be disposed of in a public or private sanitary sewer through deposit into a toilet along with any dog feces. Individuals may also dispose of dog feces contained in sealed plastic bags with regular household trash. Business entities must dispose of dog feces using a sanitary sewer system through deposit in a toilet on premises occupied by that business.

(b) In no event shall any feces be deposited in any storm sewer or drainage ditch.

(2) Exclusion. The provisions of this subsection shall not apply to a guide dog accompanying any blind person.

Our managers in coordination with the board and committee members have come up with a wide variety of events that are planned throughout the summer. Please consider attending one of the social events.

Please consider making a donation to Conner Stroth, our Eagle Scout candidate who is raising funds so he can fix up the Bramhill Court playground.

We continue to look forward to working with community members, to continue make Ransom Oaks a great place to live.

André Lam
ALam@RansomOaks.com
President ROCC ■

Around Ransom Oaks

Ransom Oaks Management Update



Summer is shaping up and there are so many beautiful days ahead. There is energy and enthusiasm for the possibilities that are within this community along with Glen Oaks Golf Course owner, Tim Fries. Big shout out to him for hosting the May Board Meeting and for his passion to reimagine the golf course, its programs and community relations. Also want to thank the dozens of community members that have volunteered their time and positive energies to make improvements; From the wonderful group that came out to lay stone and plant trees at Glen Oak Playground to the Board of Directors for their vision and time to fix, update and restore everything from electrical panels and broken doors to communications and recreation programs. Special thanks to Daphne Bell for her clever work on the calendar insert; Patti Hill for helping me paint; Jen Stewart for taking the lead on recreation and gardening; the entire Regan family for stepping into so many roles; to the countless contractors who have fixed our facilities and to my partners in management who work hard to make everything work. Many thanks!

Ransom Oaks pools are the assets we love most about this home owner's association. Knowing that the pools were closed late last year, and the pumps were shut down prematurely, we opened them as early as weather and pool company would allow. This gave us three and a half weeks to get them clean and the chemistry right. After weeks of shock treatment, the chemistry is right. The last stage of pool preparations is vacuuming, which you cannot do until you have clear water. So, what we found is that each pool had completely different debris. There was much more organic material in Ransom Oaks and Greenwood than there was in the Eveningwood pool.

At Ransom Oaks, there was a whole lot of leaf debris that was partly broken up and took two and a half days to vacuum. The water is clear and the pool is clean, but the concrete is stained from algae growth last Fall. Because that debris was able to be vacuumed and we had clear, clean water, Ransom Oaks was ready for Memorial Day Weekend.

At Eveningwood pool, there were perfect conditions. However, due to the failure of the pavilion's concrete foundation, the concrete had to be removed and re-poured prior to opening and an unforeseen consequence of having concrete work adjacent to a pool is concrete dust. This fine dust obscured visibility to the bottom of the deep end making it a Health Department violation. This dust was so fine that it stayed suspended in the water and were unable to be cleared through the sand filters, so it had to be pumped. While the pool was empty, it was scrubbed with Clorox and power washed before being refilled. Professionals and the Board of Directors were consulted in this difficult decision. The good news is that, as of this writing, Eveningwood is ready for swimmers.

Greenwood was the greenest of all. When it finally cleared, the vacuum would disturb a thick base of algae that floated to the top. Attempts to skim that failed because it was so fine it broke upon hitting the screen. Vacuuming was futile, so the massive 151,000 gallon pool was drained in order to remove this algae from the entire pool surface. This was also scrubbed with Clorox and power washed. This massive pool is being refilled with a garden hose, so you can imagine how long it will take to replace 151,000 gallons. Please be patient and understand that the concrete surface is stained from algae, but the algae no longer exists.

Please be patient, be safe, be kind... and have a fun summer!

Michelle

ROCC Management

716-508-ROCC

FacilitiesManager@RansomOaks.com ■

Ransom Oaks

Gardening Committee

Love digging in the dirt?

Green thumb?

Flowers your thing?

We. Need. You!

Email jstewart@ransomoaks.com for information on the gardening committee. ■



Father's Day Fun

In our busy days, some ideas for Father's Day Fun...

- Plan and make dinner together.
- Go for a walk around the neighborhood.
- Take a bike ride to a new place.
- Family scavenger hunt.
- Grab your poles and head to the water for an afternoon of fishing.
- Dad a golfer? Head out to the range and hit a bucket of balls.

Anything you do together makes Father's Day a day to remember. ■



Applications are now available for the 2018 Amherst Garden Walk scheduled for July 7 from 10 AM to 4 PM.

Applications must be submitted no later than June 17.

<http://www.amherst.ny.us/misc/gwform.asp> ■

Around the US

Flag Day History

Flag Day is celebrated on June 14. It commemorates the adoption of the flag of the United States, on June 14, 1777, by resolution of the Second Continental Congress. The United States Army also celebrates the U.S. Army Birthdays on this date.

In 1916, President Woodrow Wilson issued a proclamation that officially established June 14 as Flag Day; in August 1946, National Flag Day was established by an Act of Congress.

Flag Day is not an official federal holiday. It is at the president's discretion to officially proclaim the observance.

On June 14, 1937, Pennsylvania became the first U.S. state to celebrate Flag Day as a state holiday, beginning in the town of Rennerdale.

New York Statutes designate the second Sunday in June as Flag

Day, a state holiday.

Perhaps the oldest continuing Flag Day parade is

in Fairfield, Washington. Beginning in 1909 or 1910, Fairfield has held a parade every year since, with the possible exception of 1918, and celebrated the "Centennial" parade in 2010, along with some other commemorative events.

Appleton, Wisconsin, claims to be the oldest National Flag Day parade in the nation, held annually since 1950.

Quincy, Massachusetts, has had an annual Flag Day parade since 1952 and claims it "is the longest-running parade of its kind in the nation."

The largest Flag Day parade is held annually in Troy, New York, which bases its parade on the Quincy parade and typically draws 50,000 spectators.

Source: Wikipedia.com ■



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**Around Town
Easy Walking**



Reminder to homeowners: Sidewalks in front of your home must be maintained and repaired as needed. The Town of Amherst does inspect sidewalks for safety, so please address the uneven slabs that can pose a hazard to walkers. ■

**Around Our Earth
Summer Solstice**

What is the summer solstice?

The dictionary defines a solstice as either of the two times in the year, the summer solstice and the winter solstice, when the sun reaches its highest or lowest point in the sky at noon, marked by the longest and shortest days.

Just the facts please...

The summer solstice (or estival solstice), also known as midsummer, occurs when a planet's rotational axis, or geographical pole on either its Northern or its Southern Hemisphere is most greatly inclined toward the star that it orbits. On the summer solstice, Earth's maximum axial tilt toward the Sun is 23.44°. (Likewise, the Sun's declination from the celestial equator is 23.44°.) This happens twice each year (once in each hemisphere), when the Sun reaches its highest position in the sky as seen from the North or South Pole

The summer solstice occurs during the hemisphere's summer. This is the June solstice in the Northern Hemisphere and the December solstice in the Southern Hemisphere. Depending on the shift of the calendar, the summer solstice occurs some time between June 20 and June 22 in the Northern Hemisphere and between December 20 and December 23 each year in the Southern Hemisphere. The same dates in the opposite hemisphere are referred to as the winter solstice.

As seen from a geographic pole, the Sun reaches its highest altitude of the year on the summer solstice. The colloquial term "midsummer" refers to the day on which the solstice occurs. The summer solstice day has the longest period of daylight, except in the polar regions, where daytime remains continuous for 24 hours every day during a period ranging from a few days to six months around the summer solstice.

Whew... Now you know.

Source: Wikipedia.com ■

Mark Your Calendar

**ROCC Mtg
June 11**



**Flag Day
June 14**

**Father's Day
June 17**



**Summer
Solstice
June 21**

**Canada Day
July 1**



Ransom Oaks

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:** Ransom Oaks Community Corp (716) 508-ROCC (be sure to leave a message), newsletter@ransomoaks.com
- 2. Pay via PayPal or major credit/debit card** via PayPal.com to payments@ransomoaks.com. Indicate which month(s) to apply your payment.
- 3. 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

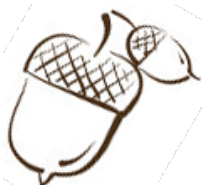
- 2 Col. (4.75" x 1.5" high) Ad: \$37/mo.
- 2 Col. (4.75" x 3" high) Ad: \$65/mo.
- 1/3 Page Ad: 3 Col. x 3" \$85/mo.
- 1/2 Page Ad: 3 Col. x 4.5" \$125/mo.
- 2/3 Page Ad: 3 Col. x 6" \$155/mo.
- Full Page Ad: 3 Col. x 9.5" \$235/mo.

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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Any Ransom Oaks residence may be part of the Annual Garage Sale, even at the last minute!

Call 866-9959 if you need a kit.

Be sure to drive around Ransom Oaks so you don't miss sales not listed. ■

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June

Please visit our web site at RansomOaks.com

Next ROCC Meeting:

Monday • June 11, 2017

6:30pm @ Greenwood Dr Recreation Center.

MEETINGS begin at 6:30pm at the Greenwood Drive Recreation Center the 2nd Monday of each month except for Oct & Nov 2018 which are 2nd Tuesdays.

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. ■*

2018 Meetings

Jun 11

July 9

Aug 13

Sept 10

Oct 9*

Nov 13*

Dec 17

June 15
Deadline for
Ransom Oaks News
July issue

Charlesgate Meeting:

second Wednesday of each month.

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

- **Charlesgate, Glen Oak** Clover Management, 688-4503
 - **Forest Edge** R & D Property Management of WNY, 688-2083
 - **Briarwoods or Woodgate** Andruschat Real Estate Service, 688-4757
 - **Vandalism, Animal Control or Security Concerns** Amherst Police, 689-1311
 - **Swormville Fire**, 688-7055
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Ransom Oaks

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