



Great Oaks

940 Oakwood Drive • Rochester, MI 48307 • (248) 651-2460



BULLETIN BOARD

Early Bird Rent Drawing

The Early Bird drawing winners for October were Chelsea Kundrick and Lauren McCleod. Congratulations! Remember to pay your rent before the 1st of the month to be entered into our drawing to win a **\$50 rent credit**.

November 2009



NOTES & NEWS

Attention, Residents

The accompanying notice contains important information that all residents will need to know regarding snow removal.

Snow Removal

Snow season is here! All of our snow removal equipment and workers are ready to do battle with this year's drifts. We would like to ask residents to assist the plowing crews by moving your cars to the plowed areas once they have been cleared.

We Make Change

For your convenience, our office keeps a plentiful supply of quarters to make change for the coin-operated laundry facilities.

Gratitude for Sacrifice

Formerly known as Armistice Day, Nov. 11 was renamed Veterans Day in 1954 to honor veterans of all U.S. wars.

Resident Referrals

When you refer someone to Great Oaks Apartments, you will receive a \$300 credit on your rent. Make sure your name appears on our Welcome Card to receive credit.

HIGHLIGHTS

Furnished Guest Suites

Great Oaks offers a furnished apartment home for your guests as an alternative to an expensive hotel room. Our two-bedroom, two-bathroom apartment is available for only \$75 per day with a \$500 refundable security deposit. Call our office for details.

Carpet Maintenance

Here are a few tips for keeping your carpeting looking its best:

- Vacuum frequently.
- If you spill food or a beverage, clean the spot with cold water and Ivory soap.
- To remove ink, cover the spot with salt. As the salt absorbs the ink, scoop it up and repeat until all ink is absorbed.
- To remove grease, immediately cover the spot with flour and vacuum the next day; then wipe the spot with a small amount of turpentine.
- If your carpet needs all-over cleaning, we recommend steam cleaning rather than shampooing.

We appreciate your efforts to keep your home clean and attractive.

Great Oaks Office Staff

Catherine M. Dube Residential Manager
DeAunte Fuller Maintenance Supervisor
Debra Becknell Associate Res. Manager
Angela K. Mildfelt Leasing Consultant

Web Address

info@greatoaksapartments.com

Important Numbers

Management/Leasing Office . . (248) 651-2460
Emergency Maintenance (248) 275-2048
Fire, Police, Ambulance 911

Great Oaks Office Hours

Monday-Friday 9 a.m.-6 p.m.
Saturday 10 a.m.-4 p.m.



Piece of the Rock

While no one contests that the legendary Plymouth Rock exists, its importance in American history is up for debate. Some historians believe the Pilgrims stepped on Plymouth Rock while disembarking from the Mayflower to come ashore to America in 1620. Other historians, however, question that belief because no documented evidence by the Pilgrims exists in reference to Plymouth Rock. Other trivia:

In 1774, Plymouth Rock split in half when townspeople moved it for safekeeping. It suffered again during another move in 1834.

By the 1800s, people began chiseling pieces of the rock as souvenirs.

The massive stone currently resides in a waterfront enclosure in Massachusetts.

Nearly 1 million people visit the rock in Pilgrim Memorial State Park annually.



THE 1-MINUTE CHEF



Chocolate Banana Cream Trifle

Ingredients:

- 18 whole graham crackers (5 x 2 inches)
- 3/4 c. semi-sweet chocolate morsels
- 1 (12-ounce) container whipped topping
- 1 (3.4-ounce) package banana cream or vanilla instant pudding and pie filling

- 1 c. milk
- 4 large bananas, peeled
- 2 T. lemon juice

Directions:

Chop graham crackers; set aside.

For ganache, place chocolate morsels and 1 1/2 c. whipped topping in small bowl. Microwave on high until melted and smooth, stirring every 15 seconds. Combine pudding mix and milk in separate bowl; whisk until thickened. Fold in remaining whipped topping.

Slice bananas. Sprinkle with lemon juice and toss gently. Set aside 10-12 slices for garnish.

To assemble trifle, place half the graham cracker crumbs over bottom of trifle bowl. Place half of the bananas on crackers and top with one-third of the ganache. Spread half of the pudding filling over ganache. Repeat layer. Decorate with remaining ganache and sprinkle with graham cracker crumbs. Arrange reserved banana slices around edges.

Source: *The Pampered Chef*. Find recipes or a consultant at www.PamperedChef.com.



CONSUMER TIPS

Supercharge Sensible Battery Usage

With so many portable devices that require batteries these days, it might not come as a shock to learn that Americans buy, use and throw away billions of batteries every year. Because batteries contain some fairly corrosive chemicals, it's important to use each one to its full potential and then dispose of it responsibly. Use these tips to be a better battery consumer:

One and only. When a device that takes more than one battery goes dead, don't assume all the batteries are bad. It just takes one to stop the show. Use a battery tester to detect the dead one.

Mix and match. Many people mistakenly assume you can't mix battery brands. This

is a myth. Rest assured you can pair different manufacturers' offerings. Battery types do not mix, however, meaning you shouldn't use an alkaline battery with a rechargeable one.

Cool, not cold. If batteries are stored in a spot that's too warm, they can actually lose their charge. Keep unused batteries in a cool place to prolong their life. A battery can stop working if it's too cold, but it should be fine when restored to room temperature.

Discard dutifully. When it is time to toss your batteries, do it responsibly. Drop them off at a collection facility so they don't end up in the waste stream. You can find a list of locations at www.Earth911.com. Some retailers even offer disposal services so you don't need to make a special trip. Places such as Walgreens, Taco Bell, IKEA, Whole Foods and Batteries Plus participate in The Big Green Box program, which provides a box for you to dispose of



How to Give a Unique Gift on the Cheap

If you're making a list, checking it twice and realizing you have more good boys and girls to buy for than your budget allows during this holiday season, don't despair. With a little creativity, you can give personalized gifts to everyone on your list for less, such as these clever creations from *MarthaStewart.com*:

Showcase your skills. Use your special talents to your advantage. If you knit or crochet, make colorful scarves. If you sew, make holiday throw pillows. If baking is your specialty, send a batch of something in an attractive tin.

Think inside the box. Your jewelry one, that is. Breathe new life into old brooches, pins or pendants by adding a piece of ribbon or material to create a one-of-a-kind bracelet.

your batteries and be on your way. Visit www.EasyBatteryDisposal.com for a list of participating retailers.



When it is time to toss your batteries, do it responsibly.

Find a frugal frame. Giving a picture frame with a personal photo is always appreciated, so browse for a frame with a distinctive border. Or create a unique frame using a vintage belt buckle or the lid to a hat box.

Make tea lights. If you have old candles and mismatched teacups or ones without saucers, easily transform them into eclectic teacup candles. Melt down old candles, affix new wicks and pour the wax into the cups for antique-like ambiance.



**GOOD
WORKS**

Angel Food Ministries

Angel Food Ministries is a nonprofit, nondenominational organization that has provided food assistance and financial support to individuals, families and communities across the United States since it started in Georgia in 1994. Host sites at churches and community centers find volunteers and collect orders, then distribute the boxes of food on a specific day each month. The host site earns \$1 for its benevolent fund from each box distributed.

The food is restaurant-quality at a fraction of the cost, with menus changing monthly and several "specialty" boxes each month, such as allergen-free, seafood, fruit or senior boxes with premade meals. Costs for each package range from \$22 to \$35, with the "Signature" box costing \$30 and containing items such as steaks, lasagna, cheese, shelf-stable milk, margarine and beef-and-bean burritos. The food is never second-hand or outdated.

Each month, an estimated 500,000 families accept grocery assistance from Angel Food Ministries. This giant effort requires 3,500 host sites and more than 45,000 volunteers.

The web site offers much more information. To find a local host site, view monthly menus, order boxes, view recipe ideas and cooking instructions or find out more about Angel Food Ministries' mission, visit www.AngelFoodMinistries.com.



"As we express our gratitude, we must never forget that the highest appreciation is not to utter words, but to live by them."
—John Fitzgerald Kennedy

"Valor is stability, not of legs and arms, but of courage and the soul."
—Michel de Montaigne

"The eyes of the world are upon you. The hopes and prayers of liberty-loving people everywhere march with you."
—Gen. Dwight D. Eisenhower

"We few, we band of brothers. For he who sheds his blood with me shall be my brother."
—William Shakespeare

"I think there is one higher office than president, and I would call that patriot."
—Gary Hart

Illustratus

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November 2009

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1 Rent Is Due Early Bird Drawing	2	3	4	5 Last Day to Pay Rent to Avoid Late Fees	6 \$50 Late Fee Assessed for Late Rent	7
8	9	10	11 Veterans Day	12	13 <i>World Kindness Day</i>	14
15 AMERICA RECYCLES DAY	16	17	18	19	20	21
22 The Humane Society of the United States Founded (1954)	23	24	25	26 Thanksgiving Office Closed	27 Office Closed	28
29	30	<p style="font-size: 1.5em; margin: 0;">MONTH OF THE MILITARY FAMILY</p>				

