



# Great Oaks

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



## BULLETIN BOARD

### Early Bird Rent Drawing

The Early Bird drawing winner for September was

Carol Wilder.

Congratulations! Remember to pay your rent before the 1st of the month to be entered into our drawing to win a **\$50 rent credit**.

## OCTOBER 2009



## NOTES & NEWS

### Flower Reminder

Please, when you are preparing your flower beds for winter, be sure that you store your gardening tools in your personal storage room. Do not use the carport to store any items you wish to keep. Please place any and all debris in the dumpster.

### Furnaces

As the days become shorter and the nights colder, we suggest that you turn your thermostat to heat if you haven't already. We would like to make sure your heat is working properly. On Nov. 2, we will be disconnecting the outside condensing units on all air conditioners to protect them during the winter.

### Carport Etiquette

Please respect your neighbor's carport space. Do not park in a carport unless it has been assigned to your apartment through the office. Also, please remind your visitors of this rule. Violators will be towed without notice at the vehicle owner's expense. Thank you for your cooperation.

## HIGHLIGHTS

### Breast Cancer Awareness Month

Oct. 6 is Lee National Denim Day. Help us support this cause by wearing your favorite jeans on this day. In honor of Breast Cancer Awareness Month, please join us for snacks and refreshments throughout the day on Tuesday, Oct. 6, at the Leasing Office.

### Quarters for Laundry

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

### 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.

### 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.

### Great Oaks Office Staff

Catherine M. Dube ..... Residential Manager  
DeAunte Fuller ..... Maintenance Supervisor  
Debra Becknell ..... Associate Res. Manager

### All Smiles

Don't be crabby; the first Friday in October is World Smile Day.

### Web Address

[info@greatoaksapartments.com](mailto: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 ..... 9:00 a.m.-6:00 p.m.  
Saturday ..... 10:00 a.m.-4:00 p.m.



### Pumpkin Points

Are you out of your gourd? No, we don't mean crazy. We're referring to having access to some *real* gourds. At this time of year, your gourd of choice is probably a pumpkin (well, it's actually a squash).

Some pumpkin facts:

- Pumpkins have been around for hundreds of years. Native American Indians used dried pumpkin strips to make mats.
- Pumpkins are a fruit. In fact, they are the state fruit of New Hampshire.
- Pumpkin seeds provide protein and zinc. They are believed to lower cholesterol and act as an anti-inflammatory for arthritis.
- The self-proclaimed pumpkin capital of the world is Morton, Ill., where 85 percent of the world's canned pumpkin is made.



## THE 1-MINUTE CHEF

### Jalapeño Popper Mini Pizzas

#### Ingredients:

- 1 (11-ounce) package refrigerated thin-crust pizza dough
- 4 slices bacon
- 1 small red bell pepper, finely diced
- 2 jalapeño peppers, chopped
- 4 ounces cream cheese, softened
- 1 cup shredded cheddar cheese, divided
- 1/2 c. crushed corn chips

#### Directions:

Preheat oven to 425° F. Place unrolled dough onto cutting board. Using a sawing motion, slice dough into 24 disks. Place disks onto bottom of oblong pan; press to flatten. Bake 11-13 minutes or until golden brown.

Meanwhile, slice bacon into 1/4-in. pieces; cook in sauté pan on medium-high heat



8-10 minutes or until crisp. Remove from pan and drain on paper towels. Drain sauté pan, leaving 1 t. drippings in pan. Add bell pepper and jalapeños and cook over medium heat 2-3 minutes or until tender.

Combine cream cheese, half of the cheddar cheese, bacon and peppers in bowl; mix well. Divide cream cheese mixture evenly over individual pizza crusts. Sprinkle with remaining cheese and crushed chips. Bake 4-6 minutes or until cheese is melted. Serve immediately.

*Source: The Pampered Chef. Find additional recipes or a consultant in your area at [www.PamperedChef.com](http://www.PamperedChef.com).*

### Addressing Invitation Etiquette

If you're planning a wedding, anniversary party or other formal event, you know the invitation sets the tone of the occasion. It's likely the first impression your guests receive. Is the outside of the envelope sending an unintentional message because of how it's addressed? While technology can certainly make the task of addressing invitations easier and more efficient, the verdict is still out on whether computer-generated addresses are acceptable etiquette or technically tacky.

In the good old days, you had no choice: invitations were addressed by hand, in script, usually by a professional calligrapher. This labor-intensive method carried a message that the recipient was special.

But the days of fancy computer fonts have made invitations easier to manage. Additionally, handwriting is a seemingly lost

art form, and younger generations seem to actually prefer the ink-jetted alternative to a chicken-scratched scrawl. The compromise? Aim for invitations that look sophisticated, not sloppy. Here are some tips:

- *Pick a pretty font.* Steer clear of anything that is hard to read.
- *Stick to a standard size.* Just because you can print names in 18-point type doesn't mean you should.
- *Keep colors conventional.* Print names and addresses in one, conservative color.
- *Clearly label it.* Printing directly on the envelope is preferred. If that's not possible, print on clear labels.
- *Clean up your list.* Take time to proofread your list to make sure there are no typos.

If you do choose computer-generated over



## CONSUMER TIPS

### Online Calculators Offer Free Financial Advice

Did you know that, with a few clicks of the mouse, you can greatly impact your personal financial stability?

[Kiplinger.com](http://Kiplinger.com) and [AARP.org](http://AARP.org) are two web sites offering more than 50 different online money calculators. Each page is easy to navigate, with categories for the situations you may be planning for, such as retirement, college savings, real estate portfolio management and budgeting/spending. Best of all, these tools perform the difficult math formulas for you and instantly give results.

For instance, if you're wondering whether you should pay down credit-card debt or save more cash, go to [www.Kiplinger.com/tools](http://www.Kiplinger.com/tools), and find the calculator "Should I Pay off Debt or Invest in Savings?" Simply answer six questions, and the tool gives you quick results and advice.

handwritten addresses, be sure to personalize other details of the celebration so guests feel honored to spend the day with you.



To find out how much you may need to be comfortable in your golden years, check out [www.AARP.org/money](http://www.AARP.org/money) and click on "Retirement Nest Egg Calculator." You'll receive charts, graphs and planning advice to help you gain financial security along the way toward retirement.

### Is It Time to Update Your Résumé?

**Q:** *I recently read about a great job that's perfect for me, but I realized it's been ages since I've updated my résumé. How can I wrangle it into shape quickly?*

**A:** Though we typically only scrutinize our résumés when looking for a new job, the perfect position can open up at any time, and it's worthwhile to be prepared. It might be easiest to start at the end—look at the bottom and think about anything new you could add, like workshops, professional training or awards.

Work your way up to the most recent entry in your employment history. Is it still relevant to the position you're in now, or a position you would like to move into? Our careers are constantly evolving, and your résumé should reflect that. Even past employment that maintains relevance can be edited down—use the extra space to expand on your current goals.

On that note, examine your entire résumé for any unnecessary clutter. Potential employers will scan several at once and don't have time to read your life history. Focus instead on your current skills and career objectives. And proofread! Have friends take a look to make sure your manuscript contains no prospect-killing typos or omissions.

Finally, a fresh new résumé deserves a fresh new look. If you are still using the same format from a few years ago, it's time for a change. And remember to make your résumé available in a variety of digital formats: text only, Microsoft Word and PDF. Not only does it demonstrate some technical savvy on your part, it also expedites applying for positions through online job-search web sites and e-mail.

## WIT & WISDOM



"October is not only a beautiful month but marks the precious—yet fleeting—overlap of hockey, baseball, basketball and football."

—Jason Love

"Sports is human life in microcosm."

—Howard Cosell

"The fewer rules a coach has, the fewer rules there are for players to break."

—John Madden

"There isn't a single professional sports season now that doesn't go on at least a month too long. Baseball starts in football weather, and football in baseball weather, and basketball overlaps them both."

—James Reston

"We didn't lose the game; we just ran out of time."



—Vince Lombardi

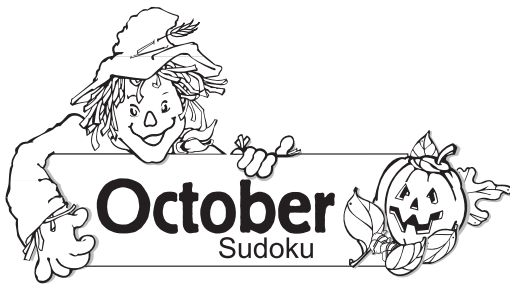


10800 Grenada Lane • Overland Park, KS 66211  
Telephone: (913) 754-4300 • [www.illustratus.com](http://www.illustratus.com)

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# October 2009

| Sunday  | Monday                               | Tuesday  | Wednesday   | Thursday                          | Friday         | Saturday                               |
|---|--------------------------------------|--|---|-----------------------------------|----------------|--|
| <h2>Dental Hygiene Month</h2>  |                                      |  |   | 1                                 | 2              | 3                                      |
|   |                                      |  |   | Rent Is Due<br>Early Bird Drawing |                |  |
| 4   | 5                                    | 6  | 7   | 8                                 | 9              | 10                                     |
| Last Day to Pay Rent to Avoid Late Fees   | \$50 Late Fee Assessed for Late Rent | Breast Cancer Awareness Day Refreshments at Office |   |                                   |                |  |
| 11  | 12                                   | 13   | 14  | 15                                | 16             | 17                                     |
| National Food Bank Week (Oct. 11-17)  | Columbus Day                         |  |  |                                   | World Food Day |  |
| 18  | 19                                   | 20   | 21  | 22                                | 23             | 24                                     |
|   |                                      |  |   |                                   |                | <b>MAKE A DIFFERENCE DAY</b>           |
| 25  | 26                                   | 27   | 28  | 29                                | 30             | 31                                     |
| Mother-in-Law Day   |                                      |  |   |                                   |                | Happy Halloween<br>National UNICEF Day |



Fill in the grid so that every row, every column and every 3x3 box contains the digits 1 through 9.

Solution:

|   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 4 | 8 | 1 | 5 | 3 | 7 | 2 | 6 | 9 | 8 | 8 | 4 |
| 1 | 6 | 5 | 8 | 3 | 9 | 2 | 4 | 7 | 1 | 6 | 9 |
| 2 | 3 | 7 | 1 | 5 | 4 | 9 | 8 | 6 | 2 | 3 | 7 |
| 7 | 2 | 4 | 9 | 1 | 3 | 6 | 5 | 8 | 7 | 2 | 4 |
| 3 | 9 | 8 | 5 | 6 | 2 | 7 | 1 | 4 | 5 | 1 | 6 |
| 9 | 7 | 3 | 4 | 8 | 5 | 1 | 6 | 2 | 9 | 7 | 3 |
| 8 | 5 | 1 | 2 | 9 | 6 | 4 | 7 | 3 | 8 | 5 | 1 |
| 6 | 4 | 2 | 3 | 7 | 1 | 8 | 9 | 5 | 6 | 4 | 2 |

|   |   |   |   |   |  |   |  |   |   |   |   |
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|   |   | 2 |   | 7 |  | 8 |  |   |   |   |   |
| 8 |   | 1 |   |   |  | 6 |  |   |   |   |   |
|   |   |   |   |   |  | 5 |  |   | 6 |   |   |
|   |   |   | 5 |   |  |   |  |   | 1 | 4 |   |
| 5 |   |   |   |   |  |   |  |   |   |   | 9 |
| 7 | 2 |   |   |   |  | 3 |  |   |   |   |   |
|   |   | 3 |   | 1 |  |   |  |   |   |   |   |
|   |   |   |   | 8 |  |   |  | 2 |   |   | 7 |
|   |   |   |   |   |  |   |  |   |   |   |   |
|   |   | 9 |   | 2 |  | 5 |  |   |   |   |   |