



# Great Oaks

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



## BULLETIN BOARD

### Early Bird Rent Drawing

The Early Bird drawing winner for April was Robert Jaranowski . Congratulations! Remember to pay your rent before the 1st of the month to be entered into our drawing to win a **\$50 rent credit.**

## May 2010



## NOTES & NEWS

### A Friendly Reminder

Great Oaks has a quiet enjoyment provision to the lease agreement. Any noise after 11 p.m. and before 6 a.m. is a disturbance of the peace. Please call the Rochester Police Department at (248) 651-9621 if you are being disturbed by a neighbor during these hours. A resident complaint form must be filed in the office for management to follow through on any noise complaints.

### Pets

It is important that all pet owners pick up after their pets immediately! It is a privilege to own a pet, and with that privilege comes the responsibility of properly caring for it. Please take pride in your community by alerting the management to any offenses in regard to our pet policy, which includes leashing all pets, so that we may enforce our regulations and maintain a beautiful community.

### Good Advice

"Happiness is a habit. Cultivate it." — Elbert Hubbard

## 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.

### Barbeques

This is a reminder that Great Oaks Management does not permit any private barbeques or grills. This is part of the community policies addendum to the lease agreement. We have charcoal grills behind our office for grilling.

### Think Positively

What You Think Upon Grows Day, May 31, gives us 24 hours to pause and reflect on the power of positive thinking. Researchers believe that a positive outlook will improve your life.

### Fun in the Sun

The pool opens for the season on Monday, May 31. We hope you all have a chance to relax and enjoy the pool this summer. We ask everyone to take care and observe all rules posted in the pool area.

### 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](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 a.m.-6 p.m.  
Saturday ..... 10 a.m.-4 p.m.



### Horse Play

There will be no horsing around May 1 in Louisville, Ky., as owners, trainers and jockeys get serious about the 136th annual Kentucky Derby. Here are a few facts you may not know about the first gem in horse racing's Triple Crown:

- **Open for business.** Aristides, a 3-year-old colt, won the first Derby on May 17, 1875.
- **Maximum horse-power.** In 1907, the facility allowed auto races onto the track.
- **Bet on it.** The track lowered the minimum wager on a race from \$5 to \$2 in 1911.
- **Sounds good.** New York Journalist Bill Corum coined the phrase "run for the roses" in 1925.
- **Derby dish.** Burgoo, a thick stew of lamb or other meats, plus beans and veggies, is popular on race day.



## THE 1-MINUTE CHEF



### Scrumptious Sweet Potato Squares

#### Ingredients:

- 1 c. all-purpose flour
- 1/4 c. plus 2/3 c. confectioners' sugar
- 1/3 c. chopped pecans
- 7 T. margarine
- 1 8-ounce package fat-free cream cheese

- 1 8-ounce container fat-free, frozen whipped topping, thawed and divided
- 2 15-ounce cans sweet potatoes, drained, or 2 c. fresh sweet potatoes, cooked and cut into chunks
- 1/4 c. sugar
- 1/2 t. ground cinnamon

#### Directions:

Preheat oven to 350° F. In large bowl, combine flour, 1/4 c. confectioners' sugar, pecans and margarine. Press into bottom of 13- x 9- x 2-inch baking pan. Bake 20 minutes. Set aside to cool. In mixing bowl, mix cream cheese and 2/3 c. confectioners' sugar until creamy. Fold in 3/4 c. whipped topping. Spread cream cheese mixture over cooled crust. In mixing bowl, beat sweet potatoes, sugar and cinnamon until smooth. Spread over cream cheese mixture. Smooth on the remaining whipped topping. Refrigerate.

*For more recipes and cooking tips, visit the Louisiana Sweet Potato Commission's web site, [www.SweetPotato.org](http://www.SweetPotato.org).*



## GOOD WORKS

### Foundation's Focus Is Cleaning for Cancer

Between things such as work, school, practices, PTA meetings, taking care of their families and their homes, many women already feel pressed for time when it comes to juggling responsibilities. Cancer doesn't discriminate, however, and hundreds of thousands of women with packed schedules face the burden of handling "life" while battling cancer. Thankfully, a newly formed nonprofit dedicated itself to easing the hassles of daily life for female cancer patients, providing a bit of relief for these women.

The Cleaning for a Reason Foundation understands that life doesn't stop when a woman receives a cancer diagnosis. The group's organizers know that having help



with those responsibilities can positively impact her as she faces both emotional and physical hurdles.

Cleaning for a Reason provides that support by offering free, professional housecleaning assistance to women undergoing cancer treatment. With a doctor's confirmation of her condition, a female cancer patient can request the aid of a participating local business. Then, when chemotherapy and radiation zap her energy, a team of cleaning experts steps in to provide the needed relief.

If you, or someone you know, is currently fighting a battle with cancer and could benefit from the foundation's housecleaning aid, get details at [www.CleaningForAReason.org](http://www.CleaningForAReason.org).



### Don't Let a Limited Budget Spoil Your Summer Vacation Plans

Your annual summer migration to a favorite getaway might be tradition, but financial worries may have you concerned that your yearly ritual is out of reach. If you're searching for ways to pinch pennies, know that nearly every vacation plan has some aspects you can tweak to save cash.

**Review every avenue.** Today's fluctuating gas prices may mean that traveling by train or bus is less expensive than packing up the car. Whatever alternative you choose, make sure you add all fees and service charges to the final cost of each transportation carrier you consider so you can compare total charges and make accurate assessments.

**Plan for provisions.** At the very least, pack nonperishable snacks and drinks. Also, look for lodging with a kitchenette. While such accommodations may be more expensive up front, you will save money by not having to eat out at every meal.

**Ask, ask, ask.** When you make reservations, ask whether discounts or incentives are available. If you are traveling with children, look for family-friendly offerings, and be sure to inquire whether hotels or amusement parks offer discounts for members of organizations to which you belong, such as AAA or AARP.

**Assess your destination.** Finally, one of the easiest ways to save money on your summer vacation is *not* to go in the summer. If that alternative is not available to you, consider rethinking your destination. For example, while the beach may have always been a summer standby, this year, opt for a nearby lake or amusement park.

### 8 Ways You Can Reuse the News

Before you toss your newspaper in the recycling bin, consider all the ways you could put yesterday's news to good use. Here are some options for repurposing your old papers:

**1) Window washing.** Use a few pages to wash windows, mirrors and other glass surfaces. Simply spray with solution and wipe surfaces clean.

**2) Paper packer.** If you are mailing a package and need extra cushioning to protect your object, wad up some newspaper and stuff it around your breakables.

**3) Odor eliminator.** Place a few pages in the bottom of your kitchen trash can before you put in a new trash bag. The newspaper will reduce smells and absorb any spills from a leaky liner.

**4) Peeling pal.** Before you make a mess in the kitchen peeling potatoes, carrots or other vegetables, lay out some newspaper on the countertop. After peeling, just pick up the paper and toss for easy cleanup.

**5) Moisture reducer.** Line the crisper drawers in your refrigerator with newspaper to absorb moisture and eliminate odors.

**6) Ripening resource.** Wrap immature fruits or vegetables in several layers of newspaper to speed the ripening process. The newspaper traps ethylene gas, which the produce emits, encouraging it to ripen more quickly.

**7) Footwear fix.** To dry out wet shoes, stuff them with crumpled newspaper. The paper will help absorb dampness, and they will dry faster.

**8) Storage solution.** Stuff decorative boxes and luggage with newspaper before putting them into storage to eliminate musty smells and absorb moisture.



"They fell, but o'er their glorious grave, floats free the banner of the cause they died to save."—*Francis Marion Crawford*

"On thy grave the rain shall fall from the eyes of a mighty nation!"—*Thomas William Parsons*

"Although no sculptured marble should rise to their memory, nor engraved stone bear record of their deeds, yet will their remembrance be as lasting as the land they honored."  
—*Daniel Webster*

"The legacy of heroes is the memory of a great name and the inheritance of a great example."  
—*Benjamin Disraeli*



# May 2010

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<i>May</i> 						1 Rent Is Due
2 National Pet Week (May 2-8)	3	4 National Teacher Day	5 Cinco de Mayo (Mexico)	6 \$50 Late Fee Assessed for Late Rent	7	8
9 	10	11	12	13	14	15
16	17 Armed Forces Day	18	19	20	21	22
23/30	24/31  MEMORIAL DAY MAY 31	25	26	27	28	29

## Celebrate Memorial Day

with memories of loved ones who've passed on and appreciation for those who gave their lives in battle.

Have a safe and happy holiday!



YHB