



EQUAL HOUSING OPPORTUNITY



# Great Oaks

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

## JUNE 2010



### BULLETIN BOARD

#### Early Bird Rent Drawing

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

## NOTES & NEWS

### Air-Conditioning

If your air conditioner is not cooling your apartment properly, please turn the unit off immediately and contact the office for service.

### Only One Way to Grill

We have a designated grilling area behind the swimming pool. The location is situated away from buildings and traffic to help ensure a risk-free grilling experience. Please do not use personal grills at your building; use only the in-ground charcoal grills provided by our community.

### Resident Referrals

If you refer a friend or coworker to Great Oaks, you will receive a \$300 rent credit on your rent after the new resident moves in. Your name must be on our welcome card listing you as the resident referral to qualify. See leasing office for details!

### Seasonal Selections

Now is the time for shopping at local farmers' markets. Find the nearest one at [www.LocalHarvest.org](http://www.LocalHarvest.org).

## HIGHLIGHTS

### Resident Appreciation

Resident Appreciation Week is June 21-25 this year. We will notify you of what resident activity we have planned for our residents.

### 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.

### Fire Safety

In honor of National Safety Month in June, please know where the fire extinguisher is in your apartment, and know how to use it. Fire safety is a primary concern for our community.

### Has Anything Changed?

Have your phone numbers at home or work changed recently? It is very important that we have your contact numbers in case we need to contact you. Thank you for keeping us informed.

### Great Oaks Office Staff

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

### Wishful Thinking

Audacity to Hope Day is June 4.

### Web Address

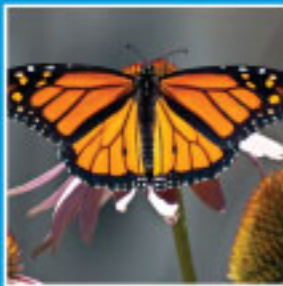
[info@greatoaksapartments.com](mailto:info@greatoaksapartments.com)

### 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.



### Weather the Storm

Good riddance, Ana. The same goes for Joaquin and Wanda. Your ill wind and rain won't be missed. The National Weather Service has been naming hurricanes since 1953, and those were names of recent storms. The 2010 hurricane season is upon us and it typically lasts from June through November. Here are some other snippets about these storms:

#### *What's in a name?*

Alex, Bonnie, Igor and Lisa are among the names designated for hurricanes this year. If you are Cindy or Don, your name comes up in 2011. Visit the National Hurricane Center's site, [www.NHC.NOAA.gov](http://www.NHC.NOAA.gov), to see lists of names through 2015.

*Boy-girl-boy.* In the beginning, only women's names were used. In 1979, men's names made the list and genders rotated every other storm.



## THE 1-MINUTE CHEF

### Pick-a-Peck-of-Peppers Fiesta Ranch Dip

#### Ingredients:

- 1 cup reduced-fat mayonnaise
- 1/2 cup fat-free sour cream
- 1/2 cup nonfat, plain yogurt
- 1 (1.1-ounce) packet ranch dip mix
- 2 each: green, red, orange and yellow bell peppers

#### Directions:

Combine mayonnaise, sour cream, yogurt and ranch dip mix in a medium-size bowl; place in the refrigerator to chill. Rinse bell peppers, then slice off the tops and remove seeds. Set aside one of each color to use as serving bowls. Slice one green, red, orange and yellow bell pepper into quarters. Place one quarter of each color into a food processor and chop until fine.



Remove and drain excess water. Add the diced bell pepper mixture to the fiesta dip and stir until well combined. Pour the dip into each of the whole peppers and serve with the remaining bell peppers cut into strips.

For more recipes and dips, visit the Hidden Valley web site, [www.HiddenValley.com](http://www.HiddenValley.com).



## LIFE STYLES

### Fending for Yourself in an Accident

If you've ever been involved in a car accident, you know things can happen in a flash. Preparing yourself ahead of time by knowing what to do after a collision can calm your nerves if the unexpected happens.

Keep the following items in your glove box at all times: a list of emergency contacts, pen or pencil, notepad, flashlight and proof of insurance.

If an accident occurs and it was your fault, your first reaction might be to jump out and apologize. In today's lawsuit-happy world, however, many experts advise against this. Laws are complex and what may appear as your fault might not be. Instead, offer

sympathy for the interruption to both of your days without admitting guilt.

*Practice safety first.* If you cannot exit your vehicle because it would be unsafe to do so, stay in your car with your seat belt fastened. Call 911 for assistance.

*Gather the facts.* Exchange information with the other driver: name, address, phone number, insurance company, policy number, driver's license number and license plate number. Also write down a description of the other vehicle that includes make, model, year and color. Get names and phone numbers of any witnesses present.

*Document the scene.* Make notes about the collision and how it happened. Take pictures of the accident with a camera or camera phone, if possible, to provide to a claims adjuster. If a law enforcement official is not dispatched (in some locations, officers only respond if injuries are reported) be sure to file an accident report with the police department.



## WEB WONDERS

### Protecting Your Privacy Online

Social networking sites continue to gain popularity and users. Maybe you got into a friending frenzy on Facebook and have seen your friend numbers climb into the thousands. Or, perhaps you're dying to set up your own Twitter account. Social media seems nearly inescapable these days, but too many people aren't taking the common-sense precaution of locking the social-media front door before heading out for vacation.

Think about the information you're sharing. Birth date? E-mail address? Phone number? Could someone unscrupulous use this information to assume your identity? Having personal information available on social networking sites leaves the door open for just that. Facebook, for example, has tons of applications that seem like fun, but each one includes a disclaimer that you're making your personal information—and your friends' information—available for others to see.

This brings us to the importance of using privacy settings. Most platforms let you shield your personal information from strangers, and some allow you to customize your privacy settings. Facebook, again, lets you control how much of your personal information your friends can reveal to applications they use.

If you haven't already, familiarize yourself with the privacy settings on the networking sites you use and decide how much contact information you want to share with others.



## CONSUMER TIPS

### Never Pay Full Price Again

With smart planning and a little research, you may never have to pay full price again—for anything. Not only do specific items go on sale at certain times each year, the Internet can give buyers a boost and offers even more money-saving opportunities.

When it comes to travel expenses, several web sites can reduce costs. *GasBuddy.com* provides gasoline prices at filling stations in your ZIP code. *Kayak.com* searches well-known travel sites (such as Expedia or Priceline) for you to save both money and time on airfare, rental cars and hotel rooms.

For everyday items, such as groceries and toiletries, click on *Coupons.com* before making a list. Thousands of new coupons are uploaded each day, and when combined with advertised sales, you can save a bundle on necessities, from bread to toothpaste. You won't be alone, either; the Promotion Marketing Association's Coupon Council reports that 94 percent of Americans used some form of coupon in 2008.

For everything else, Consumer Reports compiled a calendar detailing times when certain items are typically marked down. Here's a sampling:

- January: bedding, swimwear, treadmills
- February: humidifiers, small electronics
- March: computers, winter coats
- April: cameras, spring clothing
- May: athletic shoes, telephones
- June: indoor furniture, sports gear
- July: outdoor furniture, swimwear
- August: air conditioners, camping gear
- September: bikes, plants
- October: winter coats
- November: baby products, toys
- December: bikes, TVs

To ensure the most savings, plan purchases, review ads and don't forget to look online before heading out to shop.



*"In June as many as a dozen species may burst their buds on a single day. No man can heed all of these anniversaries; no man can ignore all of them." —Aldo Leopold*



*"I wonder what it would be like to live in a world where it was always June." —L.M. Montgomery*

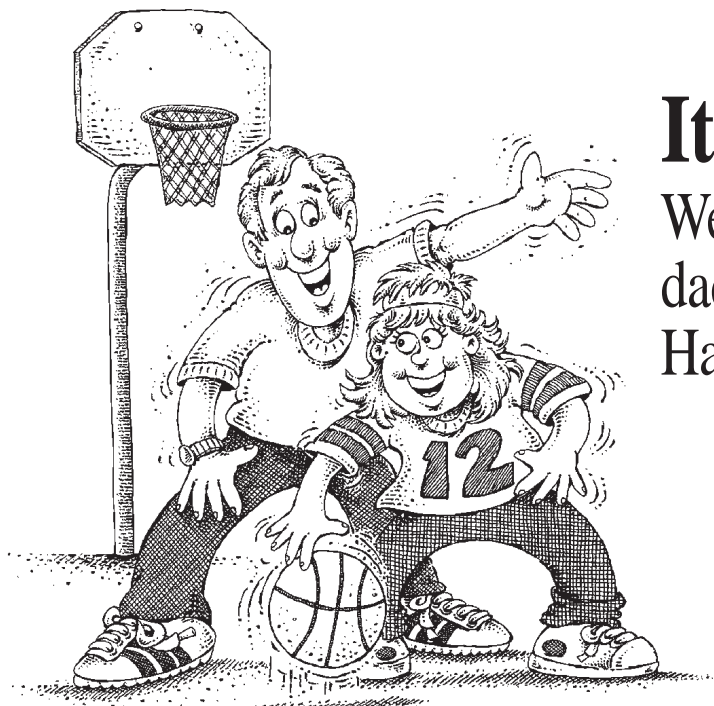
*"No price is set on the lavish summer; June may be had by the poorest comer." —James Russell Lowell*

*"What is one to say about June, the time of perfect young summer, the fulfillment of the promise of the earlier months, and with as yet no sign to remind one that its fresh young beauty will ever fade." —Gertrude Jekyll*



## June 2010

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
		1 Rent Is Due	2	3  <b>JUNE</b>	4	5
6 \$50 Late Fee Assessed for Late Rent	7	8	9	10	11	12
13	14  CELEBRATE FLAG DAY	15	16	17	18	19
20 Father's Day	21 Resident Appreciation Week Summer Begins	22	23 U.N. Public Service Day	24	25	26 Lunar Eclipse
27	28	29	30	<b>GREAT OUTDOORS</b> month		



### It's Dad's Day!

We appreciate all the terrific dads in our community.

Happy Father's Day!