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Golden Acres R. O. A. Board Members 2026-2027



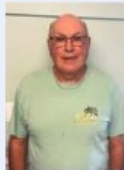
Tammy Davis
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Jim Schmitt
Vice President



Randy Nickle
Treasurer



Gordie Spafford
Secretary



John Nabb
Director



Steve Robertson
Director



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President's Report

By Tammy Davis #21

The lazy days of summer are here, but that doesn't apply to GA! We spend the summer months updating our common assets throughout the park.

As of this writing, we have replaced the workshop's concrete pad and completed milling and paving the streets. We closed off the A court entrance leading into the bank and we made improvements to the opening along our entrance into the bank parking lot to accommodate

golf carts. We will spend the rest of the summer replacing any concrete sidewalks that are in disrepair.

The board would like to thank the full-time residents for their patience as we continue to improve our common assets.

Happy 4th of July!
Tammy Davis

From the Editor's Desk

By Chris Rainsforth

goldenacresr.o.newsletter@gmail.com

Greeting to all:

May you all be having a wonderful summer. Happy July 1st to all my G. A. Canadian Friends and Happy July 4th to all of my American Friends. I have included 2 Articles so that we can all share some fun information.

Chris Rainsforth

Rec Committee Report May 2026

By Gina Douthit Unit 55 and Debbie Douthit Unit 60

Gina Douthit Unit 55 and Debbie Douthit Unit 60

from the Summer Rec Committee again this summer. We know throughout the summer many “year rounders” travel to visit family. The luncheons and craft events were enjoyed by those who were still in the park. Sometimes the luncheons were well attended and sometimes only just a couple of us. Regardless, it was good to get together. We welcome any ideas you may have and look forward to serving again this summer. Please share your email and phone number with the Summer Rec Ladies to ensure you don't miss out on summer Golden Acres Summer Events.

Recreation Committee 2026-2027 November 2026-April 2027	
Chairperson	Maureen Shannon
Vice-Chairperson	Richard Barnes
Treasurer	Anne Knott
Secretary	Tina Sinclair
Newsletter	Chris Rainsforth
Bingo (Sub Committee)	Glenda Spafford
Kitchen	Deb Pollard
Recreation Committee 2026 May to October 2026	
Co-Chair	Debbie Douthit
Co-Chair	Gina Douthit

Event Contacts 2026-2027 Winter Season November 1 to April 30	
Wednesday Weekly	Richard Barnes
Bingo Committee	Paula Bunevith, Kevin Rainsforth, Glenda Spafford
Progressive Cards	Lynn and Dave Roselli
Bowling	Jack Terry
Golf	Ron Tasior, Ed Richtmyer
Indoor Exercise	Nancy Karhoff, Claudia Burke
Walking with Belinda	Belinda Sezbenski
Ping Pong	Lori Barnes
Jamming with Jim	Jim Davis
Pickle-ball	Staicy Boyd Gunter
Fun Euchre	Jim and Tammy Davis
Shuffle Under the Stars	Rose West
Shuffle League	Rose West

Canada Day: Why and How It Is Celebrated in Canada

Canada Day, celebrated every year on July 1, is Canada's national holiday. It marks the birth of the country and is a day when people across Canada come together to reflect on history, celebrate achievements, and enjoy time with family and friends.

The History: Why Canada Day Is Celebrated

Confederation and the Birth of Canada

Canada Day goes back to July 1, 1867, the date of Confederation. On that day, three British colonies:

- The Province of Canada (which later became Ontario and Quebec),
- New Brunswick, and
- Nova Scotia

were united into a single country called the Dominion of Canada under the British Empire.

This happened through the British North America Act (now called the Constitution Act, 1867). It did not create a fully independent country yet, but it was the starting point of Canada as a self-governing nation.

From Dominion Day to Canada Day

Originally, July 1 was known as Dominion Day. Over time, as Canada became more independent (for example, with the Statute of Westminster in 1931 and the patriation of the Constitution in 1982), people began to see this date more clearly as the country's national birthday.

In 1982, the name was officially changed from Dominion Day to Canada Day. That same year, Canada gained full control over its own Constitution, including the Canadian Charter of Rights and Freedoms.

The Meaning of Canada Day Today

Canada Day has several layers of meaning:

- National birthday: It marks the birth and growth of a modern, independent Canada.
- Reflection on identity: It's a time to think about what it means to be Canadian—values like diversity, democracy, and respect for human rights.
- Celebration and critique: Increasingly, Canada Day is also a time to reflect critically on the country's history, especially the impact of colonialism and residential schools on Indigenous peoples.

For many, it is both a day of pride and a day of reflection, recognizing that Canada is still a work in progress.

How Canada Day Is Celebrated Across the Country

Public Events and Festivities

Canada Day is marked by public celebrations in cities, towns, and small communities:

- Fireworks: Large fireworks displays are a highlight in many places, especially in major cities like Ottawa, Toronto, Vancouver, Montreal, and Calgary.
- Concerts and performances: Outdoor stages feature live music, traditional dances, and artistic performances by Canadian artists.
- Parades: Many communities host parades with floats, marching bands, cultural groups, and local organizations.
- Ceremonies: Official ceremonies often include the raising of the Canadian flag, singing of the national anthem "*O Canada*," and speeches by politicians or local leaders.

The capital city, Ottawa, typically hosts one of the largest celebrations, especially around Parliament Hill, with high-profile performances and national broadcasts.

Community Activities

At a local level, Canada Day also feels like a summer festival:

- Picnics and barbecues: Families and friends gather in backyards, parks, or beaches to barbecue and share meals.
- Sports and games: Street hockey, soccer, baseball, and other games are common, especially with children and youth.
- Fairs and markets: Outdoor markets, food trucks, and cultural fairs offer local food, crafts, and entertainment.
- Face painting and flags: Children often get maple leaf face paint, and people wear red and white, Canada's national colours.

Many people use the long weekend to travel, go camping, or enjoy nature, especially since Canada Day falls in the middle of summer.

Symbols of Canada Day

Several key symbols are especially visible on Canada Day:

- The Maple Leaf: The red maple leaf, at the centre of the Canadian flag, appears on clothing, decorations, and face paint.
- The Canadian Flag: People display the flag on homes, cars, and in public spaces. Flag-raising ceremonies are common.
- Red and White: These are the national colours of Canada. Many dress in red and white clothing to show their pride.
- The National Anthem: “*O Canada*” is sung at public events and ceremonies.

These symbols help create a shared sense of identity and unity, even among people from many different backgrounds.

Canada Day and New Citizens

Canada Day is also an important day for new Canadians:

- Citizenship ceremonies are often held on or around July 1, where permanent residents officially become Canadian citizens.
- These ceremonies can be emotional and meaningful, connecting people’s personal journeys to the story of the country.

For many newcomers, Canada Day is a moment to celebrate belonging and to look ahead to their future in their new home.

A Day of Celebration and Reflection

In recent years, more attention has been paid to the complex parts of Canada’s history:

- The treatment of Indigenous peoples, including the legacy of residential schools and ongoing inequalities.
- The need for reconciliation and better relationships between Indigenous and non-Indigenous people.

Because of this, some people choose to mark Canada Day in quieter, more reflective ways, or to attend events that focus on education, remembrance, and change rather than only celebration.

This has led to a broader conversation about what Canada Day should represent: not just pride in achievements, but also responsibility to address past and present injustices.

Conclusion

Canada Day, celebrated every year on July 1, is Canada’s national holiday and a symbol of the country’s birth in 1867. It is marked with fireworks, concerts, parades, barbecues, community events, and public ceremonies from coast to coast to coast.

At the same time, Canada Day is increasingly seen as a moment to reflect—on the country’s diversity, its accomplishments, and its unfinished work toward reconciliation and equality. In this way, Canada Day is both a celebration of what Canada is and a reminder of what it still hopes to become.

July 4th in the United States: Why and How It Is Celebrated

Every year on July 4th, people across the United States celebrate Independence Day, one of the nation's most important holidays. This day commemorates the adoption of the Declaration of Independence on July 4, 1776, when the thirteen American colonies declared their freedom from British rule and became an independent nation.

Why July 4th Is Celebrated

In the 1700s, the American colonies were under the control of Great Britain. Many colonists became unhappy with British taxes and laws because they had little say in how they were governed. Tensions grew, eventually leading to the American Revolutionary War.

On July 4, 1776, the Continental Congress officially adopted the Declaration of Independence, a document primarily written by Thomas Jefferson. The declaration stated that the colonies were no longer part of the British Empire and had the right to govern themselves. This historic event marked the birth of the United States of America.

Today, Independence Day is celebrated to honor the nation's founding and the ideals of freedom, democracy, and self-government.

How Americans Celebrate July 4th

Independence Day is both a patriotic and festive occasion. Communities large and small organize events that bring people together to celebrate.

Fireworks Displays

One of the most recognizable traditions is the fireworks show. Fireworks light up the night sky in cities and towns across the country, symbolizing the joy and excitement of the nation's independence.

Parades

Many communities hold parades featuring marching bands, military units, decorated floats, and local organizations. These events often showcase American history and patriotism.

Family Gatherings and Barbecues

July 4th is also a time for family and friends to gather. Many Americans host backyard barbecues, picnics, and outdoor parties. Popular foods include hamburgers, hot dogs, corn on the cob, and watermelon.

Patriotic Displays

People often decorate their homes with American flags, banners, and red, white, and blue decorations. Many wear clothing featuring the colors of the American flag to show national pride.

Public Events and Concerts

Cities frequently organize concerts, festivals, and community celebrations. Patriotic music and historical presentations help people remember the significance of the holiday.

Conclusion

July 4th, or Independence Day, is a celebration of the founding of the United States and the values of freedom and independence. Through fireworks, parades, family gatherings, and patriotic events, Americans honor their history and celebrate their nation's birth. It remains a day of pride, reflection, and unity for millions of people across the country.

Birthdays and Anniversaries by Norma Moore

Golden Acres July Birthdays

We want to mention all those who are celebrating this month and send them our very best wishes.

Rosalynne Frabotta	.....	July 2
William Erickson	.....	July 2
Gerald Karlnoski	.....	July 3
Daniel Orman	.....	July 3
Rita Sheire	.....	July 4
Maureen Perry	.....	July 5
Diane Hetu	.....	July 8
Michael Symak	.....	July 12
Mary Wittenbols	.....	July 12
Robert Eckland	.....	July 13
Kim Germann	.....	July 13
Joe Kotsay	.....	July 13
Gerry Kavanagh	.....	July 14
James Zweifel	.....	July 16
Joe Armeli	.....	July 18
Todd Hollenback	.....	July 18
Richard Sezbenski	.....	July 19
Gail Tasior	.....	July 19
Mario Spadafore	.....	July 20
Nigel Drane	.....	July 21
Mary Capone	.....	July 23
Patricia Cockerill	.....	July 23
Gilles Prescott	.....	July 24
Terry (Dawg) Long	.....	July 25
James Whitney	.....	July 28
Robert Brewer	.....	July 31

Golden Acres July Anniversaries

John and Kathy Burke	.....	July 1
Kevin and Pam Pursell	.....	July 1
Steven and Susan Toner	.....	July 9
James and Mary Stewart	.....	July 10
Norm and Barbara Sanford	.....	July 13

John and Kathy Cobb	.....	July 15
Richard and Ann Marie Zakala	.....	July 17
Gary and Beverly Collins	.....	July 19
Ed and Jean Morin	.....	July 22
Scott and Carla Boyd	.....	July 27
Jeffrey and Tracy Scharf	.....	July 31

Active-Duty Soldiers to Remember

Please take a moment to offer a prayer of thanks and remembrance to all those who help to protect our Countries. Keep them in your prayers until they return safely to their loved ones.

Adam Coburn (British Army),
 -Nephew of Mildred and David Todd, Lot #2.

Damien Fitzpatrick (Tech Sgt. USAF)
 -Grandson of Judith Fitzpatrick, Lot #87.

Sean Fitzpatrick (Major US Army)
 -Grandson of Judith Fitzpatrick, Lot #87.

Reid Forster (Master Corporal with the 4th Royal Canadian Regiment)
 -Son of Dave Forster & Colleen Collins Lot#128
 US Army Special Forces Green Berets, Fort Bragg, NC
 -Nephew of Jack Terry, Lot #141.

Daniel Jones (US Navy)
 -Grandson of Carol Diniz, Lot #25.

Matthew Jones (US Navy)
 -Grandson of Carol Diniz, Lot #25.

Brian Karhoff (US Army LTC)
 -Son of Nancy Karhoff, Lot #67.

Colleen Terry, US Navy, Petty Officer 3rd class, Naples, Italy
 -Daughter of Jack Terry, Lot #141.

Joshua Ryan Torres Air Force National Guard Staff Sargent (EOD unit) deployed
 -Son of Susan Franco, Lot #17

Please send updates to Chris Rainsforth Lot 215 to goldenacresr.o.newsletter@gmail.com