ACORNS

Ridge Oak, Inc. 150 Manchester Drive, Basking Ridge, NJ 07920
908/221-0266
www.ridgeoak.org

Fall Cleanup

As we head into the colder months, we ask all residents to take some time to clean up porches, patios, and planting areas outside their apartments. Please cut back or remove plants you've planted in the ground, dispose of dead seasonal plants, and bring pots, gardening tools and other planting accessories inside.

Outdoor furniture and other personal items should also be removed or stored for the winter. Keeping these areas clear helps prevent loose items from blowing around during winter storms and allows our staff and contractors to safely access buildings and walkways for snow removal and other winter maintenance.

Please complete your fall cleanup by November 20. After that date, excessive items left outside may be removed at Management's discretion. We appreciate everyone's cooperation in keeping our campus neat and ready for winter.

Door & Lock Replacement Project Underway

Our door and lock replacement project began in October in Village 1. The project includes new apartment entry doors, storm doors, and electronic locks throughout Villages 1–11, along with new apartment locks and main entrance access controls in Villages 1A, 9A and 12. These improvements will enhance security, energy efficiency and ease of access for residents. Frequently Asked Questions about this project are available at ridgeoak.org/upgrades.

November 2026

Volume 49, Issue 11



Office Closed

The office will be closed for the Thanksgiving holiday on Thursday, November 26, and Friday, November 27. Happy Thanksgiving from the Ridge Oak staff!

Fall Back

Daylight saving time ends on Sunday, November 1, at 2 am. Before you go to sleep on Saturday, October 31, be sure to set your clocks back one hour.

Election Day

Election Day is Tuesday, November 3. If you are a Ridge Oak resident, your polling place is Felmeth Hall RB Boye Community Room. The polls will be open from 6 am to 8 pm. Transporter rides will be available from 11 am to 2 pm.

Free Rabies Clinic

Bernards Township Health Department will provide residents with a Free Rabies Clinic for dogs and cats on ***Saturday, November 7,*** from ***10 am to 12 pm*** at the Bernards Township Public Works Garage, 277 South Maple Avenue, Basking Ridge.

No appointments necessary.



*The rabies expiration date for your pet can be found on your current dog/cat license. If you are unsure of the expiration date, call or email Tom Burke, Bernards Township AOC, at 908-204-3066 or Animalcontrol@Bernards.org.

*All Bernards Township dogs and cats must be licensed. All licenses expire on January 31 of each year.

*Licensing of animals is a requirement of Ridge Oak tenancy and an important aspect of community safety.



Wightman Farms hayride on October 8th.

Garden Cleanup

The raised garden beds looked beautiful this year! But now is the time to clear them out for the winter. If you have a raised garden bed in the area behind the barn, all gardens must be cleaned out by the end of day on Friday, November 13. Anything remaining after this date will be disposed of at our discretion.



Heating Tips

Ridge Oak's heat turns on automatically when the outdoor temperature drops below 68°F. As colder weather arrives, follow these tips to stay warm:

- Make sure all windows and doors are closed and locked.
- Turn off all air conditioners.

Heat is circulated by the boiler system. If it feels chilly:

Villages 1–11: Turn the thermostat up to 5. After 30 minutes, lower it to your comfort level.

Villages 1A, 9A, 12: Turn the thermostat higher, wait 30 minutes, then adjust as needed.



Snow Removal

As winter approaches, our maintenance team and contractors are preparing to keep Ridge Oak safe and accessible. Please keep these key procedures and guidelines in mind:

- **Clearing Order:** Snow removal begins after snowfall stops. Sidewalks and porch entryways are prioritized first, followed by parking lots.
- **Resident Safety:** Please remain inside until sidewalks have been cleared and treated. Always assume wet or shiny surfaces could be icy, and exercise extreme caution when stepping outside.
- **Porch & Vehicle Prep:** Clear all personal items from porch areas prior to storms. Park vehicles at least one foot back from the curb and be ready to move your vehicle, if requested, so lots can be fully plowed.
- **Ice Melt:** Pails of ice melt are available outside each laundry room door and the Village 12 front entrance.

New Residents

We are happy to welcome the following resident to our Ridge Oak family. Please say "hello" when you see your new neighbor:

Vicki Negri, Village 7



Care Fund

The Care Fund subsidizes meals and personal care. Many thanks to the following people who have made recent donations to the Care Fund:

Bob Boye
Violeta Lee

Recreation Reminder

Need a ride to a program? The transporter is here and someone can always pick you up. Just call the office the "day of" the program.



Brain Booster

Looking for some crosswords, word searchers, and brainteasers to keep your mind sharp? Each month a new packet is available to you! Please see Emma in the office for your copy.

From Congregate

Please bring containers for leftovers and let us know if you need a ride to dinner. Meal orders and cancellations are due by 11 am the business day before the meal—late cancellations will be billed.

Congregate also offers housekeeping, laundry, personal care, and medication management.

In the dining room, please be patient and kind to others and the Galley Crew. Avoid using your phone at the table—step out if you need to take a call.

To schedule a service or meal, or ask about costs, contact Shannen at the office or email srivers@ridgeoak.org.

Shopping Bus

Make sure to look at the calendar for destinations.
Make sure you have signed the new transportation waiver.
Sign-up is required.
Departure time is 10 am.
Shopping time is determined by the bus driver. **Please plan for the time you will need to check out.**
Label shopping bags with your **name** and **apartment number**.
Only **two bags** per person. If you feel sick, please stay home!





November Birthdays

3 Noelia Werner 138-C
5 Muriel Ware 135-A
6 Denise Meyer 144-F
7 Lana Johnson 221
7 Verna O'Neil 222
7 Colleen Whitehead 176-D
10 Michael Ferraioli 160-G
15 Khadijeh Sadeghi 114-D
16 Marilyn Senn 154-C
18 Jeanne Sernak 152-A
21 Fuzeng Deng 204-A
23 Riccardo Musso 211-A
25 Barbara Baker 124-A

Your Privacy, Your Decision

It is up to you. If you would like your birthday published in ACORNS, call or email Suzanne at the office – sreino@ridgeoak.org.

Mark Your Calendar

Sign up for activities using Touchtown or
Call (908) 221-0266
Email Elanese@ridgeoak.org or sreino@ridgeoak.org with any questions.

Wii Bowling

Bowling games are played on Mondays and Fridays at 9:30 am. Stop by and watch a game to see if you might be interested in participating. No experience required.

Chess

Chess is played on Mondays at 11 am in Felmeth Hall. If you would like to play, call Angela Navatta at 908-566-7441 for more information.

Tech Support

Every Monday, local high school volunteers will be available in Felmeth Hall at 4 pm to assist with tech support. Volunteers will help with navigating apps or websites and offer general tech guidance. They speak both English and Mandarin.

Canasta

Canasta is played every other Tuesday *(11/10 & 11/24)* at 10 am in Felmeth Hall. Contact Barbara Nuzzo at 732-763-4394 if you are interested in playing.



Mahjong

Mahjong is played on Wednesdays at 11 am in Felmeth Hall. Contact Emma in the office if you are interested in learning.

St. James Eucharistic Adoration

Every Thursday, schedule permitting, the Ridge Oak bus will depart from Felmeth Hall at 10 am to take residents to St. James Catholic Church for the weekly Eucharistic Adoration. The bus will pick up residents around 11:30 am and return them to Ridge Oak.

Weekly Book Delivery

Emma will stop at the Bernards Township Library each week to pick up any books you have on hold and deliver them to your door. Only specific holds you requested through the library will be picked up.



Happy Hookers

Come and join your neighbors on Fridays at 10 am in Felmeth Hall for an hour of conversation and handwork. Knitters, crocheters, cross stitchers, quilters and embroidery lovers are invited.

Bingo

Bingo is played on Fridays at 1 pm in Felmeth Hall. The cost of each card is $1.



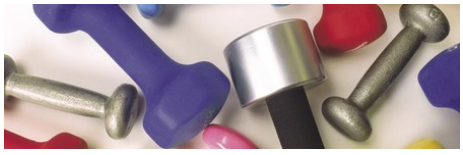
Exercise Series

Yoga & Meditation is offered on *Mondays at 1 pm*, led by Michele Flynn from Fellowship. This class focuses on breath work, with seated and standing yoga postures. It's designed to be accessible for all fitness levels.

"For the Men" Fitness is held on *Wednesdays at 11:30 am*, led by Jim Stamateris. This class is designed specifically for men and focuses on core strength, flexibility, and functional movement.

Functional Fitness meets on *Fridays at 12:30 pm*, led by Jim Stamateris. This dynamic class incorporates strength training, circuit-style routines and varied monthly formats to keep workouts fresh and effective. It's designed to improve overall functional movement.

Signup is required for all exercise programs. Programs take place in the lower-level Wellness Center.



Exercise Class Reminders

For your safety, please ensure you wear appropriate exercise clothing to all classes, including closed-toe shoes (ideally sneakers). If you are new to our exercise programs, please stop by Emma's office to sign the exercise waiver before attending your first class.

Line Dancing

Join us for line dancing with Dave Farrell on Thursdays, November 5 and November 19, at 2 pm in Felmeth Hall. This is a beginner class—no experience or partner needed! Come to watch or come to dance; everyone is welcome!

Casual Crafting

Join Emma on Monday, November 2, at 2 pm in Felmeth Hall as we craft for November! Help us decorate the resident art wall. No experience required—all are welcome!

Watercolor With Wendy

Wendy Hallstrom from The Center of Contemporary Arts will continue her fall watercolor series on Tuesdays, November 3 and November 17, at 10 am in Village 12. This class is adaptable for all levels. Space is limited to 10 participants.



Table Games

Join us Tuesday, November 3, at 1:30 pm in Village 12 for an afternoon of fun and games! We'll have Scrabble, UNO, Rummikub, Mahjong, and more.

Bible Study

Bible study will continue Wednesday, November 4, in Felmeth Hall at 9:30 am. Led by Pastor Dave from Bishop Janes UMC, these discussions welcome all perspectives and life experiences. Come one week or come all. All faith traditions are welcome, and all materials are provided.



Pokeno

Come out on Wednesday, November 4, at 11:30 am for a game of Pokeno in the Felmeth Hall Annex. Bring at least fifty pennies with you.

Active Connections

Join us on November 4 and 11 at 2 pm for an engaging afternoon designed to keep your mind, body, and spirit active and connected! You never quite know what's in store, from finding your rhythm in a lively drumbeat or finishing the lyrics to classic tunes, to sharing a laugh over a game of hot potato, ringtoss or charades. Come down to the Wellness Center, enjoy the fun with your neighbors, and keep your mind fresh and sharp!

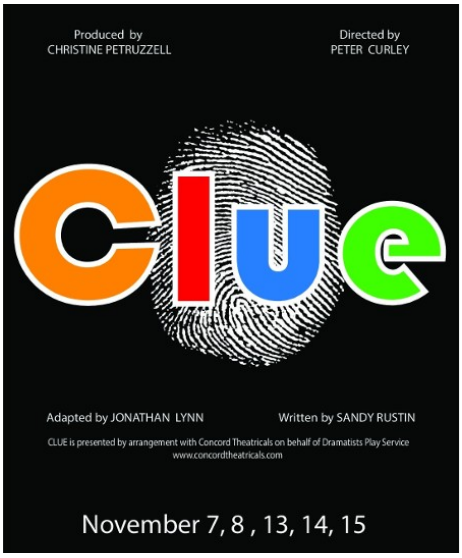


Story Go Round

Join Emma on Thursday, November 5, at 10:30 am in Felmeth Hall for some fun, low-pressure creative writing! Find inspiration in a supportive setting to explore your memories and imagination. We'll use prompts and exercises to practice writing short stories, poetry and more. No experience is necessary.

Sieminski Theater Trip

Join us on Sunday, November 8, for an afternoon of comedy and mystery! The bus will depart at 1:30 pm for the Sieminski Theater at Fellowship Village in Basking Ridge to attend Trilogy Repertory's matinee performance of Clue. Murder, mystery, and blackmail are on the menu when six mysterious guests assemble at Boddy Manor—can you figure out whodunit before the final twist? Limited tickets. Cost is $10. You will be billed in December.



K9 Demonstration

Join us on Monday, November 9, at 2 pm in Felmeth Hall for an enlightening and interactive K9 demonstration presented by the Somerset County Sheriff's Office! You will get an up-close, firsthand look at what these highly disciplined, remarkably trained, and intelligent dogs do every day on the job. Discover how these K9 officers and their handlers assist in community safety, scent work, and specialized tracking.



Wildlife and Your Home

Join us on Tuesday, November 10, at 1:30 pm in Felmeth Hall for a special presentation by the Somerset County Environmental Education Center. We will learn about all the wildlife that is seen in our yards in New Jersey and what to do when you encounter a variety of animals. Questions and discussion will be encouraged.

Magic Show

Join us on Thursday, November 12, at 2 pm for a fun and captivating afternoon of magic! No matter your age, there is always wonder to be found in a great magic trick. Prepare to be amazed by the Winick Brothers Magicians!

Morning Movie

Join us on Wednesday, November 11, at 11 am in Felmeth Hall for a screening of *The Sheep Detectives*! Starring Hugh Jackman alongside a star-studded cast, this clever whodunit follows a herd of smart, observant sheep who team up to solve a farmyard mystery.

Food Bank Volunteering

We will continue our food bank volunteering on Friday, November 13, at 10 am. Each month a group of residents and staff assist with the backpack program, which provides children throughout Somerset County with essential food for the weekend. Please keep in mind, this requires standing for about an hour.



Food Bank Network of Somerset County

Trivia With Teens

The BRPC Youth Group is returning on Saturday, November 14, at 2 pm in Felmeth Hall for another fun game afternoon. You'll team up with local teens for multigenerational trivia covering sports, music, arts, and more. Pizza will be provided. Come test your knowledge, connect with the youth group, and enjoy a great afternoon!



Karaoke Sing Along

Join us on Monday, November 16, at 2 pm in Felmeth Hall for an afternoon of singing! Come and sing or just follow along with the group.

Generations Discovered

Join your neighbor, Dr. Jeff LaMarca (Village 8), author of *Simple Citations for Genealogical Sources*, on November 17 at 1:30 pm for a presentation on how to research and record your family history with confidence. Whether you are just starting out or working through complex lineage records, Jeff will share simple, practical tools to help you document your roots accurately.

Bingo Trip!

The bus is heading down to St. Mary Byzantine Church in Hillsborough for a long overdue game of BINGO on Wednesday, November 18, at 11 am. Please bring at least $20 if you plan on playing and getting something to eat. No outside food is permitted. We will return to Ridge Oak around 3 pm. Sign-up is required.

Ecumenical Service

Father Andrew will be here Thursday, November 19, at 10 am in Felmeth Hall to lead our monthly Ecumenical service. All faith traditions are welcome to attend.

Ageless Grace Fitness

Join us Thursday, November 19, at 1 pm in the lower-level Wellness Center at Felmeth Hall for Ageless Grace, a fun brain fitness program with simple, seated movements set to music. It boosts cognitive function and daily physical skills, welcoming all ability levels. Wear comfortable clothes and shoes.

Out to Eat

On Friday, November 20, the bus will depart from Felmeth Hall at 10:30 am and head to Cracker Barrel in Clinton for a bite to eat—breakfast or lunch, your choice. Before we head home, be sure to shop at the Old Country Store. Don't forget your wallet!

Card Making

Join us on Friday, November 20, at 3 pm in Village 12 for Stampin' Up card making with Brenda. We will be making greeting cards using stamps, ink, and paper.

Total Brain Health

Join us in Felmeth Hall on Monday, November 23, at 2 pm for a Total Brain Health workout. Based on the research of Dr. Cynthia Green, this session goes beyond puzzles to strengthen your mind, body, & social spirit through engaging, science-backed exercises.

Share a Song

Monday, November 30, at 2 pm, join Emma in the Felmeth Hall Wellness Center for some fun music listening. Bring the name of a song you would like to share with the group. We will listen to a recording, reminisce, and sing along.

Festival of Trees Craft

It's time to get ready for Somerset County Environmental Center Festival of Trees. Join us on Tuesday, November 24, at 1 pm in Felmeth Hall for a decoration creation workshop. Please feel free to bring a black and white photo of your younger self that we will copy and use as decorations for the tree.

Pie Palooza!

Stop by Felmeth Hall on Wednesday, November 25, between 10:30 am and 12 pm for a piece (or two) of Melick's pie and a cup of coffee before we close for the holiday weekend!

As a gesture of goodwill and gratitude, we ask residents to bring a bag or can of coffee to donate to God's Co-Op Food Pantry. If you cannot get a can of coffee, feel free to make a cash donation to the pantry in our donation basket.



Bishop Jane's Thanksgiving Dinner

On Thursday, November 26, Bishop Jane's United Methodist Church will host their fourth Thanksgiving dinner. **The bus will leave from Ridge Oak at 1:45 pm.** Sign-up is required for the Ridge Oak bus. If you will be driving yourself, please sign up with the Bishop Jane's office at (908) 766-1108. *If you are attending, please consider bringing a pantry-safe item to donate to the food bank.*



Meet the Ridge Oak Staff



Corey Hovanec, *Executive Director*
Susan Cohn, *Director of Administration & Housing*
Robert Montemarano, *Director of Operation & Property*
Kamini Lodhai, *Director of Finance*
Miriam Palanchi, *Admin Asst. Finance & Facilities*
Suzanne Reino, *Receptionist*
Christine Randazzo, *Occupancy Manager*
Helen Colonnello, *Occupancy Assistant*
Patrice Wessel, *Marketing & Leasing Specialist*
Meriem Harbi, *Marketing & Leasing Specialist*
Shannen Rivers, *CHSP Coordinator*
Molly Clark, *Social Services Coordinator*
Emma Lanese, *Recreation Manager*
Matt Reino, *Maintenance Foreman*; Abdeslam Harbi, Melvin Kortoe, Vasile Ivan, *Maintenance*
Fatima Cantero, *Bus Driver and Laundry Services*
Hadjila Harbi, Maria Salazar, *Housekeeping*
Leo Rotshteyn, John Taylor, *Bus & Transporter Drivers*

Out & About - Local Happenings

Bernards Township Library Events

To register for programs, go to www.BernardsLibrary.org or call (908) 204-3031 x6.

- Chinese Tea & Music, Thursday, November 12, 7 pm.
- Adult Volunteer Fair, Friday, November 13, 11 am.
- LIVE CONCERT: Rave On! Singer-Songwriter Tribute, Sunday, November 15, 2 pm.
- A History of People and the Great Swamp, Tuesday, November 17, 7 pm.
- LIVE CONCERT! A Soldier's Christmas Songs & Stories from the Front, Sunday, November 29, 2 pm.

RHS Drama Club

On Thursday, November 12, at 6:30 pm, senior members of the community are invited to attend the final dress rehearsal of Ridge High School's fall play, "Harry Potter and the Cursed Child." No ticket required. Just show up!

RIDGE OAK
SENIOR HOUSING

OFFICE HOURS
Monday - Friday
9 AM - 5 PM

Phone: (908) 221-0266

Illustratus
www.illustratus.com
Copyright © 2026 by Uhlig LLC