

ACORNNS

RIDGE OAK, INC. 150 MANCHESTER DRIVE, BASKING RIDGE, NJ 07920
908/221-0266
www.ridgeoak.org

Ridge Oak IV Needs YOU!

As some may recall, in April of 2025 the Bernards Township Committee zoned our property at 95 Manchester Drive for senior housing. Our plan is to build Ridge Oak IV on that property. The building will include twenty-nine 1-bedroom apartments for those in need. On Tuesday, April 7, at 7:30 pm we will have our first public hearing at the Bernards Township Planning Board for preliminary and final site plan approval. This will include information about traffic, landscaping, lighting, and building design. Again, this hearing is open to the public. Thank you in advance for your support of our mission and planned expansion.



YMCA Transportation

Did you know that Ridge Oak residents enjoy an incredible YMCA membership benefit? For only \$5 a month, you can access all their facilities, including the gym, fitness classes, and pool. The bus now provides transportation every **Tuesday and Thursday at 10 am**. Contact Emma in the office with any questions.



April 2026

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Office Closed

The office will be closed on Friday, April 3, in observance of Good Friday.

Celebrating Our Cultures

Save the date! Join us on Thursday, May 28, at 1 pm for a special afternoon celebrating the vibrant cultures that make the Ridge Oak community so unique. We invite you to share a piece of your heritage with your neighbors—whether it's a favorite family dish, traditional dress, treasured photographs, or even a favorite dance or piece of music. Whether you'd like to perform, play a recording, or simply display mementos of your family history, your contribution will help make this a wonderful celebration of our collective roots. Please contact Emma in the office if you would like to participate so we can coordinate space for everyone to enjoy the food, stories, and music!

Social Services -Molly

The New Jersey Motor Vehicle Commission will be coming to Ridge Oak in their Mobile Unit on April 8th. This bus provides DMV services at your convenience, right outside of Felmeth Hall. The MVC mobile unit can complete license renewals, car registration renewals, and assistance in getting a Real ID. These services provided are carried out in the same way they are completed at an in-person MVC office. Meaning, you will need your 6 points of ID and payment. Please ensure that your name is exactly the same on each document you present. For those interested in getting a Real ID, there is a fee, and you should bring a credit/debit card to your appointment. For those who are due for license renewal, the cost of a Real ID is \$35. For those who are not in need of a license renewal, the Real ID is \$11. Other services have charges as well, and you can confirm the costs during your appointment. Please call or email Molly at the main office to secure an appointment; spots are limited.



Attendance Policy Reminders

To show respect for staff and fellow residents, the Ridge Oak team requests that you arrive on time for all signed-up activities and meals, utilizing helpful calendar reminders or Touchtown app notifications.

For cancellations, it is essential that you notify the office directly or cancel via the Touchtown app (do not rely on word of mouth).

Please note that for events involving outside groups or vendors, cancellations MUST be made by 4 pm the day before the event, or you will be billed \$5 or the amount stated in the Acorns.



Stitching Hope

Students from Ridge High School recently launched Stitching Hope, an organization that works with local senior centers to collect handmade hats and scarves for charity. During the winter, the *Happy Hookers* donated over 20 items to Howard's Mission in Hanover to help those in need. If you are looking for a project and would like to donate your own handmade items, Stitching Hope will be collecting donations on a monthly basis. Please contact Emma in the office for more details on how to get involved.

Garden Lottery

We are heading into the second year with our new garden setup behind the Ridge Oak maintenance barn. There are 32 handicapped-accessible garden beds available for residents! Garden beds are assigned through a lottery system. Residents are responsible for planting and maintaining their gardens throughout the season.

If you're interested in a garden bed, call the office or email Emma at elanese@ridgeoak.org by Monday, April 20. You will be notified in writing by the end of April whether you've been assigned a garden bed or placed on the waitlist.

Only one garden bed per household. If you decline an assigned bed, it will be offered to a resident on the waitlist.

- No additional pots or planters are allowed on the ground or inside the fenced area.
- Plants cannot be tied to the fence.

Do not sign up if you are traveling this summer or unable to maintain your garden.



BRPC Lenten Service

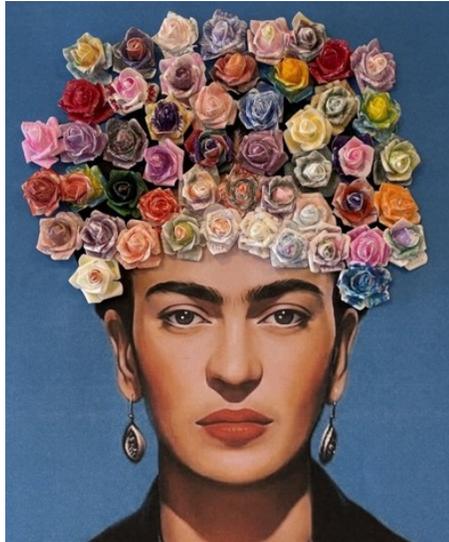
If you attended the beautiful Lenten services at the Basking Ridge Presbyterian Church in March, please consider sending a thank you note. Thank you notes can be sent to:

Mr. Chris Fortin
Director of Music Ministries
BRPC
1 East Oak Street
Basking Ridge,
New Jersey 07920
cfortin@brpc.org



Resident Art Wall

Please take the time each month to see what is on our resident art wall in Felmeth Hall!



Frida Kahlo, Women's History Month

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

Please be advised that shopping destinations have changed!

Make sure to look at the calendar.

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 are feeling sick, please stay home!



April Birthdays

- 2 Rosemary Girono 120-B
- 2 Yajuan Li 214-E
- 3 Nicholas Villano 138-H
- 11 June Smith 128-B
- 14 Marti Crane 130-A
- 14 Sung Um 158-B
- 16 Yunhan Chen 136-A
- 17 Lilly Schmitz 113
- 17 Huian Cui 215
- 17 YanJun Hu 202-D
- 19 Patricia Fritz 132-B
- 20 Min Chen 208-C
- 22 Nancy Sweazey 112-B
- 26 Barbara Schiavone 182-B
- 28 Tingyu Fan 156-D
- 28 Rhoda Knobel 203-A

New Residents

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

Mr. Ramdat & Mrs. Dulari
Ramphal Village 1

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.

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.

Wii Bowling

Bowling games are played on Mondays at 9:30 am. Stop by and watch a game to see if you might be interested in joining!

Chess

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

Mahjong

Mahjong is played on Wednesdays at 10 am. Contact Emma in the office if you are interested in learning.

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. This service is separate from the Monthly Book Buggy — only specific holds you have requested will be picked up.

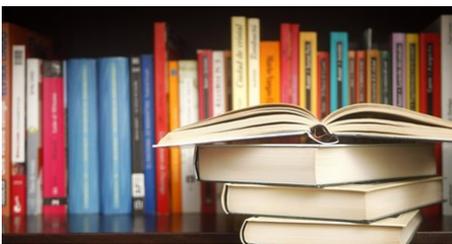


Table Tennis

Every Thursday in Village 12, there is Table Tennis "open play" from 10 am to 4 pm. The patio door at the rear of Village 12 will be unlocked during this time and all equipment will be provided. Interested in playing a tournament this spring?

Tech Support

Each Monday, volunteers will be available in Felmeth Hall from 4-5 pm to assist with tech support. They will help with setting up devices, troubleshooting tech issues, and navigating apps or websites. Volunteers speak both English & Mandarin. **Sign-up is required.**



St. James Eucharistic Adoration

Every Thursday, schedule permitting, the bus will depart from Felmeth Hall at 10 am to take residents to St. James Catholic Church. The bus will pick up residents at 11:30 am and return them to Ridge Oak. **Sign-up is required.**

Happy Hookers

Come and join your neighbors and friends 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. Sign-up is required each week.

Exercise Series

Breath & Balance: Yoga & Meditation is offered on Mondays at 1:00 pm and is led by Michele Gorka from Fellowship. This class focuses on breathwork, seated and standing yoga postures, and concludes with a guided meditation. It's designed to be accessible for all fitness levels.

Perfect Posture is offered on Tuesdays at 12:30 pm, also led by Michele Gorka. Participants will learn to become more mindful of their posture through targeted stretches and exercises aimed at improving alignment and body awareness.

"For the Men" Fitness is held on Wednesdays at 11:30 am and is 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 challenge muscles and improve overall functional movement.

Sign-up is required for all exercise programs.

It's located in the lower level Wellness Center.



Share a Song

Wednesday, April 1, at 2 pm, join Emma in the lower-level Wellness Center of Felmeth Hall for some fun listening to music. Bring the name of a song you would like to share with the group. We will listen to a recording, reminisce, engage in conversation, and sing along. Emma will access the music using YouTube.

Line Dancing

Join us for line dancing with Dave Farrell on Thursdays, April 2 and 16, at 2 pm in Felmeth Hall. This is a beginner class—no experience or partner needed! Line dancing is a fun way to improve coordination, boost cardiovascular health, and relieve stress. Come to watch or come to dance, everyone is welcome!

Neighborhood Walk & Talk

Spring is here, so let's get out and enjoy it! Join Emma on Monday, April 6, at 2:30 pm for a short neighborhood walk. Residents are welcome to bring their dogs (on a leash). If the weather is questionable, call the office.



Armchair Snorkeling With Ben

Dive into an ocean adventure without getting wet! Join us in Felmeth Hall on Tuesday, April 7, at 2 pm as one of our favorite naturalists, Ben Barkley, leads us in a virtual exploration of the deep blue sea.



April Crafting

Join us on Wednesday, April 8, at 11 am in Felmeth Hall for our monthly resident art wall craft. This month, we are welcoming the spring season with a creative "April Showers" project.

Pokeno

Come out on Wednesday, Apr. 8, at 2 pm for a game of Pokeno in the Felmeth Hall Annex. Bring at least fifty pennies with you.

The Digital Library

Did you know that you can access the Bernards Township Library right from your phone or tablet? You can check out, download, and read books almost immediately. Join Athena, our local librarian, on Thursday, April 9, at 2 pm in Felmeth Hall. She will guide you through the digital setup, bring physical books for you to browse, and help you sign up for a library card on the spot.

Making Art!

Friday, April 10, at 10:30 am, Anne Chon will be in Village 12 leading an acrylic painting class. All levels are welcome, from beginners to seasoned painters. This fun class offers step-by-step instructions.



High Notes Rehearsal

The High Notes will begin rehearsal for their June concert on Mondays, April 13 and 27, at 2:30 pm in the lower-level Wellness Center. This season's theme is God Bless America in celebration of 250 years! If you are interested in singing, please join us at our first rehearsal.

Total Brain Health

Join us in Felmeth Hall on Tuesday, April 14, at 2 pm for a Total Brain Health BRAIN WORKOUT class. Based on the research of Dr. Cynthia Green, this session goes beyond puzzles to strengthen your mind, body, and social spirit through engaging, science-backed exercises. Come learn proactive lifestyle strategies to boost your memory and keep your brain vibrant and sharp.



Bible Study

Bible study will pick back up on Wednesday, April 15, at 10 am in Felmeth Hall and continue through the spring. 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.

Ageless Grace Fitness

Join us Wednesday, April 15, 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.

Pingry Intergenerational Prom

It is that time again! Put on your dancing shoes and join us on Wednesday, April 15, as we travel in style to the Pingry School's Annual Intergenerational Dinner Dance. A charter bus will pick us up at 4 pm and bring us back to Ridge Oak at about 8 pm. You can dance or just enjoy the music, the dinner, and the talented young people. Call for a ride on the transporter. There is no charge, but sign-up is required.



Ecumenical Service

Father Andrew will be here Thursday, April 16, at 10 am in Felmeth Hall to lead our monthly Ecumenical service. All faith traditions are welcome to attend.



Essential Oil With Michele

Join Michele on Monday, April 20, at 2:30 pm in the Wellness Center for another self-care workshop focused on aromatherapy and essential oils. You will learn about the unique benefits of various essential oils that make your own fragrant room spray!

Pickleball for Beginners!

Join us on Friday, April 17, for a trip to Pickleball Kingdom in Watchung designed specifically for first-timers. The bus will depart from Felmeth Hall at 12:30 pm. We'll enjoy a professional introductory lesson followed by plenty of time for low-pressure, friendly play. No experience or equipment is necessary—just wear your sneakers and come ready for some fun! Space is limited. Sign-up is required.



Story Go Round

Join us on Tuesday, April 21, 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.



Out to the Movies

Join us on Tuesday, April 21, for a special outing to the Bernardsville Cinema for a private screening of the 2025 film, Song Sung Blue. Starring Hugh Jackman and Kate Hudson, this heart-warming musical drama is based on the true story of two down-on-their-luck musicians who find a second chance at life and love by forming a joyous Neil Diamond tribute band. The bus will depart from Felmeth Hall at 1 pm. Make sure to bring money for popcorn!



The 1950's Experience

Join Kevin Grace on Wednesday, April 22, at 2 pm in Felmeth Hall for his one-man musical performance! "The 1950's Experience" features highly accurate covers of Doo-Wop, Rock and Roll, and Rat Pack hits from the legendary artists of the era. All full-band backing tracks for the show are performed and self-recorded by Kevin himself. Sign-up is required.



Coloring With Kids

Did you know that Thursday, April 23, is Bring Your Kid to Work Day? Come and color with the some of the Ridge Oak children at 11 am in the Felmeth Hall Annex.

Under the Great Oak

Join us in Felmeth Hall on Thursday, April 23, at 2 pm for a special Arbor Day tribute. We will be hosting a screening of the 2020 documentary Under the Great Oak. This moving film chronicles the remarkable history and community significance of the 600-year-old white oak that stood in the heart of Basking Ridge. The documentary captures the town's emotional journey through the tree's decline and the creative ways its legacy continues to be honored today.

Out to Eat: The Country Squire

The bus will depart from Felmeth Hall at 10:30 am on Friday, April 24, and head to The Country Squire in Warren for a delicious breakfast or lunch, whichever you prefer! Make sure to bring your money. Sign-up is required.

Card Making

Friday, April 24, at 2:30 pm in Village 12, join Brenda Miller for card making. We will be making greeting cards using stamps, ink, and paper. All supplies provided and all crafting levels are welcome!

Table Games

Join us Tuesday, April 28, at 1:30 pm in Felmeth Hall for an afternoon of fun and games! We'll have Scrabble, UNO, Rummikub, and more.

ASL Basics

The Ridge High School ASL scholars will be back in Felmeth Hall on Tuesday, April 28, at 3:30 pm to teach and review some of the basics of American Sign Language. This is a great opportunity to learn a new skill and connect with the community.



Savoy Faire Presents The Mikado

Light Opera of New Jersey's Outreach Troupe, Savoy Faire is delighted to present a one-hour performance of The Mikado by Sir Arthur Sullivan and W.S. Gilbert on Tuesday, April 28, at 7:30 pm in Felmeth Hall. Sign-up is required. The transporter will be available.



Let's Drum!

Join Emma for an hour of rhythm on Wednesday, April 29, at 2 pm in the Lower-Level Wellness Center. No experience necessary.

Chair Tap Dance

You are never too old to tap! Join us for a fun, low-impact Seated Tap Class on Thursday, April 30, at 2 pm in Felmeth Hall.

Spelling Bee & Pizza Social

The youth group from the Basking Ridge Presbyterian Church will be here on Saturday, May 2, at 4 pm for another afternoon of fun and games—only this time, we will be spelling! Come out for some friendly and fun competition followed by pizza and dessert.

Mission Moments- Leadership in Action

Maria Salazar is far more than a dedicated staff member; she is the true heartbeat of the Ridge Oak community. Originally from Costa Rica, Maria brings a vibrant warmth and a caregiver's soul to everything she does. To Maria, maintaining a clean and inviting environment isn't just a job requirement—it is a profound act of service and a way of ensuring that every resident feels truly cared for in their own home.

Whether she is nurturing her beloved plants, sharing stories of her children and grandchildren, or brightening a room with her contagious love for music and dance, Maria treats everyone like family. Her resilience never wavers; even on difficult days, she pushes through with a smile, proving that true dedication is found in small, consistent acts of love. Maria is a devoted friend to her colleagues and a constant source of joy for the residents, and we are incredibly lucky to have her heart as part of our community.



Patrice, Hadji and Maria at the Annual Picnic

Out & About- Local Happenings


RIDGE OAK
— SENIOR HOUSING —

OFFICE HOURS
Monday - Friday
9 AM - 5 PM

Phone: (908)221-0266

St. Mark's Episcopal Church Rummage Sale

The church will hold its spring rummage sale from 9 am to 2 pm on Friday, April 17, and Saturday, April 18, at the church, 140 South Finley Ave., Basking Ridge.

Bernards Township Library Events

For all virtual programs, registration is required to receive a ZOOM link www.BernardsLibrary.org or call (908) 204-3031 x6.

- Virtual: Frick: Art & Legacy with historian Jay Schuck, Thursday, April 9, at 7 pm.
- Virtual: The 10 Bag Tidy: Spring Cleaning Made Easy with Jamie Novak, Monday, April 13, at 7 pm.
- In Person: Live Concert! Jazz & Folk: The Intersection of Two Oral Traditions, Sunday, April 19, at 2 pm.
- In Person: Ladies of History's "Annis Boudinot Stockton"- a one-woman show, Thursday, April 23, at 7 pm.