

# ACORNNS

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

## From the Executive Director

I hope everyone is having a nice spring and enjoying the Ridge Oak property, which always looks great this time of year thanks to the hard work of our maintenance staff and landscapers!

Just a quick word on laundry room etiquette. We've received several complaints recently and have also noticed debris being left in washers and dryers, or on the floor after use. Please take a minute at the end of your cycle to check the machines and clean up any lint, hair, or other debris.

Please be respectful of your neighbors and shared spaces and leave the machines and laundry room in the same condition you would like to find them.

Rob also put together some nice signs for the laundry rooms with a few helpful reminders and tips. Thanks in advance for your cooperation! Corey



## New Transportation Policy

Effective June 1st, all residents utilizing Ridge Oak transportation—for shopping, recreation, or medical appointments—will be required to read and sign a new Bus Waiver, Release, and Code of Conduct Agreement. This new policy is designed to formalize our shared commitment to mutual respect for fellow residents, the bus driver, and the law. Please visit the Felmeth Hall front desk to review and sign this mandatory new form. To help with the transition, Emma will be present at the bus each morning during the first week of June to answer any questions.

June 2026

Volume 49, Issue 6



## Farmers Market QR Codes

It's that time of the year again! The Farmers Market QR codes are now available for those who are eligible. Ridge Oak continues to be a certified distributor for the "coupons" during the Farmers Market Season, which ranges from May-November. The income limit for a single individual is \$2,413/month, and \$3,261/month for a couple. Each eligible individual is allotted \$40. Couples will receive \$80. The QR codes, which are like a square barcode, are scanned at participating farmers markets to pay for your purchase. Not all farmers markets accept the QR code, and you will be provided with the list of participating vendors within Somerset County during pickup. Pickup for the QR codes will be June 23 from 2pm-4pm and June 24 from 10am-12pm.



## Fresh Produce

Ridge Oak has partnered with The Food Bank Network of Somerset County to provide fresh produce to residents at no cost. Residents may visit Felmeth Hall on **Thursdays between 11 am and 2 pm** to collect items. Please be aware that we cannot promise specific types of produce, as the selection changes weekly, and we only receive a limited supply. Because this service is provided on a first-come, first-served basis, we cannot guarantee that produce will remain available for the entire duration of the scheduled time. Please remember to bring your own bags. Please contact Molly with any questions.



## Vaccine Clinic

Walgreens will return on Thursday, June 4 at 10 am for a follow-up vaccine clinic. They will be giving the **second dose of the Hepatitis B shot for those who received it on May 6.** They will also have Tdap available. If you are interested in getting a vaccination, please sign up on Touchtown or call the office. Molly will get in touch with you with your appointment time.

## Get Out and Vote

NJ Primary Election is Tuesday, June 2. Your POLLING Place is Felmeth Hall!

Applications for a Mail-in Ballot are also available from the office or via the County website. You must be a registered voter to apply for a Mail-In Ballot. Once you apply for a Mail-In Ballot, you will NOT be permitted to vote by machine at your polling place in the same election. A voter may apply for a Mail-In Ballot by mail up to 7 days prior to the election. Voters also now have an option of automatically receiving a Mail-In Ballot for each General Election.



## Let's Say Thanks

We recently enjoyed two wonderful events that helped welcome in the spring season. Please take a moment to share your gratitude.

- **Pancake Breakfast – Sunday, May 3rd**  
St James Men of Charity  
St James Catholic Church  
PO Box 110  
Basking Ridge, NJ 07920
- **Garden Party – Thursday, May 14th**  
Basking Ridge Garden Club  
c/o Diane Falato  
10 Harcourt Lane  
Basking Ridge, NJ 07920

## Food Bank Volunteering

We will continue our food bank volunteering on Friday, June 12. Each month a group of residents and staff assist with their backpack program, which provides children throughout Somerset County with essential food for the weekend.

The bus will depart from Felmeth Hall at 10 am, and we will return to Ridge Oak around 1 pm. This is a recurring volunteer program and a wonderful way to get involved and give back to our local community! Sign-up is required, and space is limited. We will make sure to rotate volunteers each time, to ensure everyone can participate. Please be mindful that this is an active volunteer opportunity and standing will be required for an extended period.



## 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 runs every Tuesday and Thursday at 10 am. Contact Emma in the office with any questions.

### 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:

Beth & Bill Adams

Aditya Singh

Alan Getz *in memory of Candy Butler*

### In Sympathy

Our thoughts and prayers are with the friends and family of:

*Candy Butler Village 3*

*Nancy Clauson Village 10*



### From Congregate

*Please note that dinner will be on Thursday and lunch will be on Friday for the months of June, July and August.*

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.

To schedule a service or meal, or ask about costs, contact Shannen at the office or email [srivers@ridgeoak.org](mailto:srivers@ridgeoak.org).



### New Residents

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

Anthony Dalessandro Village 4

Zhonghua Guo & Fengling

Wang Village 1

Foster Werner Village 5

Linda Chang Village 1A

### Moving Out

We bid a fond farewell to those who are moving on. We wish you good health and best wishes:

June Darien of Village 4

### 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!



### June Birthdays

1 Gaurangi Rajput 208-B

4 Angela Navatta 170-A

4 Bobbie Giannakis 166-A

5 Ralph Thomas 213-C

6 Mary Ann O'Dea 146-C

7 Mary Almendinger 138-D

13 Shin Sook Park 114-A

13 Marion Wolff 174-C

14 Larisa Smirnova 138-A

15 Youcai Ji 116

16 Fengling Wang 128H

16 Patricia Ledwith 160-C

21 Jose Torralba 206-C

22 Bonnie Hawkins 180-B

23 Chengsheng Huang 208-C

24 Min Zhu 118-F

27 Donna Morgan 207-F

### Mark Your Calendar

Sign up for activities using Touchtown or

Call (908) 221-0266

Email [Elanese@ridgeoak.org](mailto:Elanese@ridgeoak.org) or [sreino@ridgeoak.org](mailto: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. **If you cannot make a program you signed up for, please let the office know!**

### 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 11 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.

### 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.

### 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 now played on Fridays at 1:30 pm in Felmeth Hall. The cost of each card is \$1. We would love more bingo players and bingo callers!

### Exercise Series

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

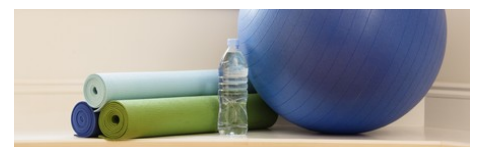
**NEW Strength & Stability** takes place on *Wednesdays at 1:30 pm*, also led by Michele Flynn. During this class, we will combine light aerobic movement, strength building with weights, and balance practice. The class will take place in the chair as well as standing-up exercises.

**“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 improve overall functional movement.

**Sign-up is required for all exercise programs.**

**It's located in the lower-level Wellness Center.**



## Bridge to Success

Beginning Monday, June 1 at 11:30 am in Felmeth Hall, Empower Somerset will offer an 8-week Stress Management series that will run every Monday through July 20. Bridge to Success aims to teach coping strategies, effective communication, social support, and healthy living skills. This program includes lunch at every session, prizes for participation and a \$50 gift card for program completion (you must attend six out of the eight sessions to receive the gift card). Space is limited. **Priority for this program will be given to those who have not completed the program in the past.**

## High Notes Rehearsal

The High Notes will continue rehearsal for their summer concert on Monday, June 1, 15, 22, and 29 at 2:30 pm in the lower-level Wellness Center.



## Watercolors With Wendy

On Tuesday, June 2 at 10 am in Village 12, Wendy Hallstrom from The Center for Contemporary Arts will begin a summer watercolor series. This class is adaptable for all levels, and no experience is required. Additional dates are June 9, June 16, and June 30.

## June Crafting

Join Emma on Tuesday, June 2 at 1 pm in Village 12 as we craft for the month of June! We will be making our own honeybee projects to put on the art wall in Felmeth Hall. Sign-up is required.

## Bible Study

Bible study will continue each Wednesday, beginning with June 3 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.

## Miniature Horse Program

Join us on Wednesday, June 3 at 11 am on the Village 12 patio (weather permitting) when a miniature horse from Hope's Promise Farm in Chester will visit to educate us about the job of a therapy horse! After the presentation, there will be a Q&A, and people will have a chance to pet the horse and take pictures.



Darleen Droege of Village 9 at last year's program.

## Card Making

Thursday, June 4 at 11 am 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!



## Line Dancing

Join us for line dancing with Dave Farrell on Thursday, June 4 and June 11 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!

## Bernardsville Library Senior Breakfast

On Friday, June 5, the bus will depart from Felmeth Hall at 10 am, heading to the Bernardsville Library for their Annual Senior Breakfast! Breakfast is free and sponsored by the Friends of the Bernardsville Library. Space is limited. Sign-up is required.



### Notables Sing

Join us on Monday, June 8 at 7 pm in Felmeth Hall to hear the Notables sing. They are a local group of singers who practice at Ridge Oak regularly. The group currently includes three Ridge Oak residents! A student scholarship will be awarded.



### Library Books & More

On Tuesday, June 9, Athena from the Bernards Township Library will visit Felmeth Hall at 11 am to provide hands-on instruction on using apps like Libby for eBooks and audiobooks. She will also bring a selection of books available for checkout. If you would like Athena to make a personal stop at your home, please let Emma know!



### Chair Tap Dance

You are never too old to tap! Join us for a fun, low-impact Seated Tap Class on Tuesday, June 9 at 2 pm in Felmeth Hall. Come and discover the joy of movement.

### Mud Clay Trip

On Wednesday, June 10, the bus will leave Felmeth Hall at 12:30 pm for an afternoon of hands-on creativity at Madison Mud Clay Studio. This is a hand-building workshop; we will not be using a wheel. Each person will make something special. The Cost of the workshop is \$10 and you will be billed in July. Space is limited to 14 residents.



### A Day at the Beach

On Thursday, June 11 at 9 am, a bus will take us to Jenkinsons Boardwalk in Point Pleasant Beach for a day at the Beach. Please note that this is not a guided trip. **Residents must be able to navigate the beach and boardwalk independently, locate restrooms on their own, and return to the bus at the designated departure time.** We suggest bringing a charged cell phone. Space is limited. We anticipate a lot of interest in this trip, so plan for a lottery. If you need to cancel, you must contact the office or you will be billed \$10.

### Story Go Round

Join Emma on Tuesday, June 16 at 2 pm 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.

### Share a Song

Wednesday, June 17 at 2 pm, join Emma in the 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, and sing along.

### Ecumenical Service

Father Andrew will be here Thursday, June 18 at 10 am in Felmeth Hall to lead our monthly Ecumenical service. All faith traditions are welcome to attend.

### Coffee With Corey

Join your Executive Director, Corey Hovanec, for a cup of coffee (or tea) on Tuesday, June 23 at 10 am in Felmeth Hall. Bring all those questions you've been wanting to ask or ideas you may want to share.



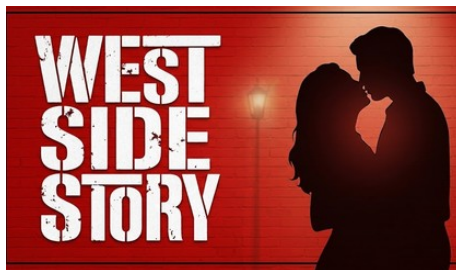
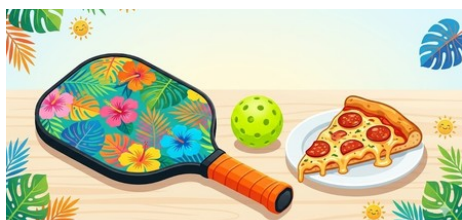
### Papermill Playhouse

On Thursday, June 18, the bus will leave Felmeth Hall at 12 pm for a 1:30 pm matinee performance of *West Side Story* at the Papermill Playhouse in Millburn, NJ. Featuring music by Leonard Bernstein, lyrics by Stephen Sondheim, and original choreography by Jerome Robbins, this production is a true masterpiece of musical theater.

Tickets are available for \$20 (a generous subsidy, as the actual cost to Ridge Oak is \$98). Please note that space is limited. If you need to cancel, you must contact the office at least 24 hours in advance, or you will be billed the \$20 ticket fee.

### Pickleball & Pizza

On Tuesday, June 23, the bus will leave Felmeth Hall at 11:30 am for an afternoon of fun at Pickleball Kingdom in Watchung. We will have the courts reserved for one hour of play, followed by a delicious pizza! Whether you have played before or just want to cheer on your friends, everyone is welcome. **Please wear comfortable clothing, and flat sneakers (tennis sneakers) are required for safety on the court.**



### Table Games

Join us Tuesday, June 23 at 1:30 pm in Felmeth Hall for an afternoon of fun and games! We'll have Scrabble, Rummikub, UNO and more.

### Karaoke Sing Along

Join us on Wednesday, June 24 at 2:30 pm in Felmeth Hall for an afternoon of singing!

### Total Brain Health

Join us in Felmeth Hall on Tuesday, June 30 at 1 pm for a BRAIN WORKOUT. Based on the research of Dr. Cynthia Green, this session goes beyond puzzles to strengthen your mind, body, & social spirit through science-backed exercises.



### Ageless Grace Fitness

Join us Thursday, June 25 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.

### What Is? With Rob

On Thursday, June 25, at 2 pm join Rob in Felmeth Hall for a new monthly conversation group designed to make modern life a little easier to understand.

Each month, Rob will explore everyday questions, current topics, technology, gadgets, scams, pop culture, and practical know-how in a relaxed, no-pressure setting. The goal is simple: modern topics simplified, with questions answered — even the ones you did not know you had.

Ever wondered about a new device, an internet term, a strange message on your phone or something you heard about but never fully understood? Bring your questions and your gumption...Rob will help figure it out with you!



### Making Art!

Friday, June 26 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.

## Mission Moments - Leadership in Action



Our Mission Moment this month honors the memory of resident Candy Butler, who passed away in April. Candy was an enthusiastic member of the Ridge Oak community. She truly loved giving gifts—and her famous cookies!—to the staff and her fellow residents, especially when she called bingo. For almost every number she called, she had a creative saying, such as her signature phrase: “Car 54, where are you?”

Beyond her role in community activities, Candy was a deeply nurturing friend who often went out of her way to drive neighbors to their medical appointments or help them run errands. She was a talented singer and a joyful presence during the holidays, frequently dressing up as Mrs. Claus at Christmastime.

Candy always signed her cards with ‘Sweetly, Ms. Candy,’ and that is exactly how we will remember her—as a kind, thoughtful woman who found profound joy in making others happy. She will be greatly missed.

## Out & About - Local Happenings

### Bernards Township Library Events

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

- In person: America 250 Event: George & Martha Washington’s Love Story, Wednesday, June 3 at 7 pm.
- In person: Repair Cafe, Saturday, June 6 at 11 am.
- In person: America 250 Event: Betsy Ross—First Person Portrayal, Thursday, June 11 at 7 pm.
- In person: American 250 Event: The History of the American Flag, with Kevin Woyce, Thursday, June 18 at 7 pm.
- In person: Lost City of the Mayans, with Christopher McCormack, Wednesday, June 24 at 7 pm.
- In person: American 250 Event: The Declaration of Independence, Monday, June 29 at 7 pm.

