



Founders Friday: Puzzle Party

**A Message from Nikki:**

What a wonderful time we had at “Meet the Team!” The best part? Engaging in great conversations with our incredible members. Your enthusiasm and support fuel our dedication to making Founders Hall the special place it is. Thank you for spending time with us and for being such an important part of our community!

This February, as we celebrate connection and sharing, I can’t help but reflect on the beautiful friendships that blossom within these walls. It’s inspiring to see members coming together, supporting one another, and truly making Founders Hall a hub of warmth and camaraderie. What better reminder of the power of connection during this Valentine’s season?

We’re also excited to celebrate our connections with the broader Ridgefield community. I’d like to invite you to a special viewing of video highlights from last year’s intergenerational Founders Hall Interview Project on Sunday, February 2nd, at 3:00 PM. This project brought members together with local students to share stories, perspectives, and experiences. Please RSVP for the event at the front desk.

If you’re interested in participating in this meaningful initiative, which will continue in 2025, I’d love to chat with you.

Let’s continue building connections and sharing stories —within Founders Hall and beyond. Thank you for being such a vital part of this vibrant community.

**IN THIS NEWSLETTER YOU CAN EXPECT:**

A Message from Nikki & Welcome to New Members.

Community Updates & February Movies

February Special Events

February Calendar

A Valentines note to yourself, Founders Hall Drop-in Groups, Oasis Senior Advisors.

Gratitude for our Donors.

**Welcome To Our Founders Hall Community!**

*New members from December 16th- January 15th*



- |                  |                    |                     |                    |                  |                |
|------------------|--------------------|---------------------|--------------------|------------------|----------------|
| Joanne Acquadro  | Kerry Christiansen | Marijane Hamren     | Pam Kingsley       | Kathleen O’Neill | Bob Thuss      |
| Robin Altman     | Arny DiLaura       | George Hefferon     | Ron Kingsley       | Karen Pellecchia | Dan Walgrove   |
| Chris Bleach     | Rachel Eichelbaum  | Marguerite Hefferon | Maria Klutey       | Rhoda Perkis     | Joyce Walgrove |
| Katherine Bleach | Karen Gamer        | Mary Hicks          | Deborah Mackiewicz | Karen Pracella   |                |
| Janet Bruehlman  | Sue Grey           | Steve Hicks         | Ed Mackiewicz      | Cathy Sabia      |                |
| Patricia Butter  | Jim Hamren         | Janet Jussel        | Nancy Merck        | Joe Scharr       |                |

## Our Stories: Instructors, Members, and Events.



### Patty Yaffa Member & Volunteer

Hi, I'm Patty Yaffa! Until my retirement a year and a half ago, I was never able to enjoy Founders Hall due to my work schedule. That all changed as soon as I retired.

I officially retired on July 7, 2023, and by July 10, I became a member of Founders Hall and signed up to volunteer, mainly filling in at the receptionist desk. What better way to meet new people, make friends, and start this next and best chapter of my life?

Founders Hall has truly been the answer to my question, "What do I do now?" I absolutely love seeing and meeting people, and I've already started new friendships that mean so much to me.

In addition to being an active member here, I'm proud to serve as the Vice Chair of Ridgefield's Commission on Aging. I'll be hosting a Coffee Talk at Founders Hall on February 26th at 10:30 AM to share more about the commission and our upcoming Expo at the Recreation Center this spring. I'd love for you to join me!

Founders Hall provides me with purpose, a sense of belonging, and most of all, a wonderful sense of community. The events and classes are first class—just like Founders Hall itself!



### Katie Overstreet Programs Manager

Meet Katie Overstreet, our Programs Manager who joined the Founders Hall team this past September! While she was unable to attend our 'Meet the Team' event due to visiting family, many of you may have met her over the past few months in classes or around the Hall. Katie is passionate about creating engaging and fun courses and is excited to hear your ideas and suggestions.

Katie and her family relocated to Ridgefield nearly a year ago from the Kansas City metro area. She's a proud Chiefs and Jayhawks fan, a mom to two young children, and a cat lover.

Be sure to stop by and say hello—Katie is looking forward to getting to know you and continuing to bring vibrant programs to our community!



### Founders Friday: Puzzle Party

Last month's Founders Friday Puzzle Party was a hit! Members enjoyed a cozy afternoon filled with jigsaw puzzles, crossword challenges, hot cocoa, and sweet treats—all while connecting with friends and having fun.

This month, we're turning up the sweetness! Mark your calendars for Friday, February 14th, at 2:00 PM, and join us for a Chocolate Tasting, generously sponsored by Ridgefield Station.

Don't miss this delightful afternoon of fun and connection!



### **FEBRUARY MOVIES** "Road to the Oscars" (past Academy Award winners)

- Fri. 2/7 at 10:00am All Quiet on the Western Front 2022 2h 28m (foreign drama) \*Best International Feature Film\*
- Fri. 2/14 at 10:00am My Octopus Teacher 2020 Documentary 1h 25m (documentary) \*Best Documentary Feature\*
- Fri. 2/21 at 10:00am Ma Rainey's Black Bottom 2020 1h 34m (drama/musical) \*Best Actor & Best Actress\*
- Fri. 2/28 at 10:00am Marriage Story 2019 2h 16m (drama) \*Best Original Screenplay Nominee\*

February 2025

REMINDER:   
Interview Project Premiere

**Sunday, February 2nd, 3:00pm.** We'll showcase video clips from last year's conversations between Founders Hall members and Ridgefield High School students. Followed by an opportunity to chat with the participants while enjoying light refreshments. RSVP at the front desk.

Founders Friday:   
Chocolate Tasting

**Friday, February 14th at 2:00pm.** A tasting of dishes, mostly sweet, featuring chocolate! While being dazzled by a performance of love songs sung by Charlotte Gray and Brandan Janso, long-time students of Miss Anya. You may remember this dynamic duo from their Broadway Musical Duets performance last September.

*chocolate love* 

Sponsored by



**Ridgefield Station**

A SENIOR LIVING RESIDENCE 

On the Road:   
The Bruce Museum

**Tuesday, February 4th, 9am-3:00pm.** Only a couple of spots left. Visit or email to [Katie@founders-hall.org](mailto:Katie@founders-hall.org) to see availability.



Eat Together Lunch 

**Tuesday, February 18th at 12:00pm** bring your own lunch and we will provide sweets. A great way to connect and meet new friends.

Billiards Tournament 

**Tuesday, February 25th & Wednesday February 26th at 10:00am.** All levels welcome. Come join this fun crew for a two day tournament. Bragging rights for the winners! Lunch included on the first day. Register at the front desk. \$8/\$10NR

Coffee Talk with   
Commission on Aging

**Wednesday, February 26th at 10:30am.** Meet the Commission on Aging over coffee and learn about exciting initiatives like the Senior Spectacular Expo, the Gold Card Senior discount program, and the Spotlight on Seniors webpage. Enjoy light refreshments, connect, and ask questions about how these programs benefit you!

Book Discussion:   
French Braid by Anne Tyler

**Thursday, February 13th at 3:00pm.** Facilitated by The Ridgefield Library.

**rl**  ridgefield library

AI & How ChatGPT is   
Changing the World with  
Dr. Rick Lawrence

**Friday, February 21st at 1:00pm.** Join us for an engaging overview of ChatGPT and its impact on daily life, education, and career opportunities. We'll explore its remarkable capabilities, limitations like bias and misinformation, and broader implications of AI, including regulation and humanity's future. Don't miss this fascinating look at the evolving role of AI!

The Greatest Sitcoms of   
All Time with Martin Gitlin

**Friday, February 28th at 1:00pm.** Join award-winning author and pop culture historian Martin Gitlin for a fun, trivia-filled presentation based on his book, *The Greatest Sitcoms of All Time*. Enjoy hilarious clips, test your sitcom knowledge, and explore how 70 years of TV comedy have evolved. Don't miss this entertaining event!

SAVE THE DATE for the  
Mystery Masquerade!

**Friday, March 28th at 5:30pm, Mystery Masquerade.**

Step into a thrilling evening of suspense and witness a crime unfold! Enjoy a sumptuous dinner while mingling with mysterious suspects, and earn tickets for your chance to win an exciting prize! Register on Community Pass or with Tracy.



# F | H

## February 2025

### FOUNDERS HALL CALENDAR

*A Donor-Supported Education and Recreation Center  
for Individuals Age 60 and Older*

#### FOUNDERS HALL

193 Danbury Rd,  
Ridgefield, CT 06877  
Hours Monday-Friday  
8:30am-4:30pm  
Phone: 203-431-7000  
Website:  
[www.founders-hall.org](http://www.founders-hall.org)

MONDAY

TUESDAY

WEDNESDAY

THURSDAY

FRIDAY

REMEMINDER:  
Interview Project  
Premiere on  
Sunday, 2/22 at  
3:00pm

Seminars and  
Performances are  
open to the public.

Seminar

Public Event

Member Event

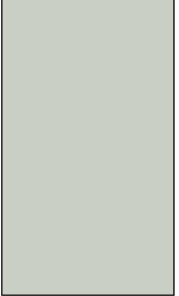
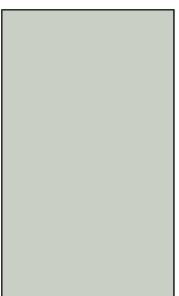
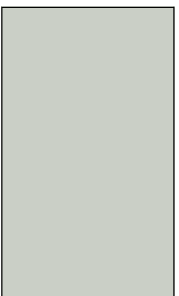
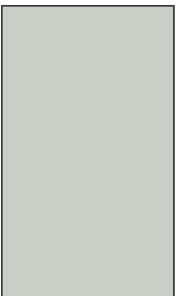
Performance

Trip

Reminder

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Instagram:  
@founders\_hall\_ridgefield  
YouTube:  
@FoundersHallRidgefield  
LinkedIn:  
Founders-Hall-Ridgefield



3

4  
On the Road:  
The Bruce Museum  
9am-3:00pm

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10

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12

13  
Book Discussion:  
French Braid by Anne Tyler  
3-4:30pm

14 Founders Friday:  
Chocolate Tasting  
2-3:30pm  
  
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17

18  
Eat Together  
Lunch  
12-1:30pm

19

20

21  
AI & How ChatGPT is  
Changing the World  
with Dr. Rick Lawrence  
1:00pm

24

25  
Billiards Tournament Day 1  
\$8/\$10NR at 10:00am

26  
Billiards Day 2  
at 10:00am  
Commission on Aging  
Coffee Talk  
10:30am

27

28  
The Greatest Sitcoms  
of All Time  
with Martin Giffin  
1:00pm

EVENT SPONSOR  
FOR FEBRUARY  
Founders Friday:  
Chocolate Tasting



Ridgefield Station

A SENIOR LIVING RESIDENCE / SLR

COMMUNITY  
PARTNERS  
& RESOURCES

Commission on Aging



Ridgefield Riders



Meals on Wheels

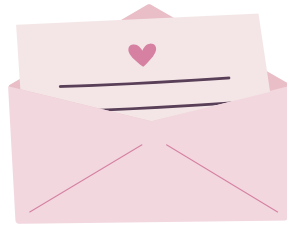


Ridgefield Library



Soar Together





### Write a Love Note to Yourself This Valentine's Day

Dear \_\_\_\_\_, < your name

I love and appreciate you because \_\_\_\_\_

You make me proud when you \_\_\_\_\_

One of my favorite things about you is \_\_\_\_\_

You bring joy to others by \_\_\_\_\_

This Valentine's Day, I want to remind you that \_\_\_\_\_

Love,

\_\_\_\_\_ < your name

## Drop-in Groups

### **Poker:**

2nd Wednesday of the month  
2:00-4:00pm, all levels welcome.  
*No money. Small prizes awarded to the winners.*

### **Billiards:**

Monday- Friday  
11:30am-4:30pm, all levels welcome.

### **Bingo:**

Every 1st & 3rd Friday of the month.  
1:00-3:00pm, all levels welcome.

### **Pinochle:**

Mondays  
1:00pm-4:00pm, if you know the game, join us.

### **Quilting:**

Tuesdays  
2:00-4:00pm, all levels welcome.

### **Weaving:**

Wednesdays  
10:00am-12:00pm, all levels welcome.

# Everything You Wanted to Know About Senior Care

*The pros and cons of...*  
**Homecare - Assisted Living - Memory Care - Nursing Home...and what they cost?**

## ...But were afraid to ask.

Contact Paul & Susan Doyle  
475.619.4123 | 914.356.1901  
[TheDoyles@youroasisadvisor.com](mailto:TheDoyles@youroasisadvisor.com)



# Thank you to our donors continued

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**Founders Circle** ° members are donors who have linked their legacy with Founders Hall.

**Our Mission** is to provide a diverse program of social, educational, and physical fitness programs for today's active seniors in a warm, fun, and stimulating atmosphere.

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*Thank you for reading!*