



FOUNDERS HALL



On the Road: The Bruce Museum

A Message from Nikki:

Spring brings exciting developments to Founders Hall, with new programs and refreshed spaces designed to enhance your experience.

We're launching several community initiatives, including our participation in Ridgefield Night Out and new volunteer partnerships with SOAR and the Boys & Girls Club. Our new Community Table lunch program will provide additional opportunities for members to connect and share meals together.

You'll notice updates around our building, including our refreshed dining room and coffee bar, creating more inviting spaces for gathering and conversation.

These renovations reflect our commitment to fostering community connections while providing meaningful ways for our members to engage and contribute.

We look forward to seeing you at our upcoming events.

Best regards,

IN THIS NEWSLETTER YOU CAN EXPECT:

A Message from Nikki

Welcome to New Members.

Community Updates

March Special Events

March Calendar

March Movies

Founders Hall Drop-in Groups.

Save the Date: Garden Gathering.

Gratitude for our Donors.

Welcome To Our Founders Hall Community!

New members from January 16th- February 15th



Sue Beck	Gina Cushman	Lou Lopez	Evan Pitkoff	Jonathan Seem
Joan Boardman	Lisa Edmondson	Andrew Mayerman	Rebecca Podore	Marty Smith
Karin Brenner	Fay Gerstenfeld	Joyce McConnell	Mary Roscic	Todd Vander Does
Marianne Carlson	Kathy Gordon	Rose Orlandi	Lisa Sacchi	Alan Webb
Alden Cushman	Linda Kelly	Becky Palmer	Lynne Savino	



Our Stories: Instructors, Members, and Events.



Nora Gordon Member

Hello, my name is Nora Gordon, and I joined Founders Hall because of the pool table! Years ago, I was searching for a safe place to play, so when I discovered there was a billiards room here, I was ecstatic... and then disappointed—because I was too young to join.

As the years went by, I inquired about membership again, but shortly after, COVID shut everything down. It's kind of difficult to shoot pool over Zoom! A few more years passed, during which I endured an extremely difficult time, losing many friends suddenly along with my sense of purpose and direction in life. I was truly struggling to "find a new home," so to speak—

but then I remembered the pool table!

I decided to give membership one more try, and I'm so glad I did! The fun and friendly camaraderie of the other players, along with their willingness to share their game expertise, has helped me feel welcome and safe during this life transition. My joy of heart is being rekindled, and my peace of mind is being restored.

My thirst for knowledge is also being satisfied by taking several of the excellent courses Founders Hall offers. One class I especially enjoy is Genealogy, as it's helping me rediscover my long-suppressed heritage while simultaneously giving me new purpose and direction. The quote by Maya Angelou, "You can't really know where you are going until you know where you have been," feels especially fitting.

Thank you to the Founders Hall staff and fellow members—I am so grateful you were here exactly when I needed you! I also want to encourage anyone who isn't sure what's next in life to explore this wonderful gem of a resource and do so as early as possible. You don't have to have gray hair to qualify or enjoy yourself here!



Founders Friday: Chocolate Tasting

Our Valentine's Day chocolate tasting was a sweet success!

Over 120 members gathered to sample chocolates while enjoying love songs performed by the talented young duo Charlotte Gray and Bradan Janso.

Coming up:

- Cosmic Conversations: Explore zodiac signs over tea and cookies in a lighthearted social gathering
- Mystery Masquerade: An evening of dinner, drinks, and whodunnit entertainment with prizes (Limited spots - register now in Community Pass or at the front desk.)

We look forward to seeing you at these exciting events!

New Academic Instructors & Classes for FH Spring Courses



Scott Schulte
*Getting the Words
off the Page*



Barbara Galazzo
Garden Mosaics



Nellie Beavers
Camra



Chris Priedemann
*Ethical Questions
in Science*



Isabel Campos
Anello
Spanish II



Jessica Mancini
Zumba



Lily Fertik
*Intuitive
Mixed Media
Painting*



Jennifer DeJulio
*Voices of America:
Current Events in
Historical Context*



Supriya Swerdlik Hermenze
Drum Circle



Luis Lopez
Salsa for Beginners



Carol Gardell
Golf Fit



Barbara Hillery
Mah Jongg



FOUNDERS HALL

What's on the Horizon: Estate Planning in 2025 & Beyond

Tuesday, March 4th at 1:00pm. Estate Planning Outlook with Ann Fowler-Cruz. Get ahead of significant estate planning changes coming in 2026; understand the sunset provisions, current tax exemptions, and explore essential planning strategies

Spring Semester Registration is due. **Tuesday, March 18th** all Spring Semester Registrations are due by 4:30pm.

New Member Coffee **Tuesday, March 18th at 10:30am.** Join us to learn how you can get the most out of Founders Hall .


On the Road: Mark Twain House & Museum, plus 3-course lunch at Peppercorn's Grill

Thursday, March 20th, 8:15am-4:00pm. Only a couple of spots left. Register today to experience the history of where Huck, Tom and Jim all came to life! Email Katie@founders-hall.org to see availability.

Step Up Your Pickleball Game: Injury Prevention & Performance Tips

Monday, March 31st at 1:00pm. Join Sports Podiatrist Dr. Allan Rosenthal ("Dr. Pickleball") and RVNAhealth's Director of Rehabilitation Gigi Weiss for expert guidance on injury prevention, proper footwear, and targeted exercises to enhance your pickleball performance.



Book Discussion: Chenneville by Paulette Jiles 

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

Eat Together Lunch

Wednesday, March 19th at 12:00pm bring your own lunch and we will provide sweets. A great way to connect and meet new friends.



Performance: Wild & Co.



Friday, March 21st at 1:00pm John Torres's latest musical endeavor, Wild & Co., is a collaboration with co-writer and bandmate Ian Tait, and it draws inspiration from The Band, Little Feat, the Grateful Dead, Radiohead, and Wilco, moving fluidly across genres from country to synth-pop.

Community Table with The Ridgefield Playhouse

Wednesday, March 26th at 12:00pm. Join us for a delicious lunch, while we host a local community partner. This semester, staff members from The Ridgefield Playhouse will join us for a meal and conversation.

Founders Friday: Cosmic Conversations

Friday, March 14th at 2:00pm. Join us for a Tea & Zodiac Social. It will be an entertaining afternoon exploring zodiac signs over tea and cookies. Connect with others who share your astrological sign and discover if the traits really match! We'll learn about the zodiac in a fun, lighthearted way while enjoying refreshments and conversation.



Special Event: Mystery Masquerade

Friday, March 28th at 5:30pm. Join us for an unforgettable evening of intrigue! Enjoy dinner, drinks, and entertainment while solving a thrilling whodunnit mystery. Test your detective skills through interactive games with chances to win prizes. Space is limited – reserve your spot today! Sign up in Community Pass or at the front desk.

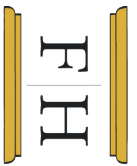


Sponsored by:



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March 2025



FOUNDERS HALL

FOUNDERSHALL

193 Danbury Rd,
Ridgefield, CT 06877
Hours Monday-Friday

8:30am-4:30pm

Phone: 203-431-7000

Website:

www.founders-hall.org

Seminars and Performances are open to the public.

MONDAY

TUESDAY

WEDNESDAY

THURSDAY

FRIDAY

3

4
● **What's on the Horizon:**
Estate Planning in 2025
and Beyond
1:00pm

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13
● **Book Discussion:**
Cheneyville by Paulette Jiles
3-4:30pm

14
● **Founders Friday:**
Cosmic Conversations
2-3:30pm

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18
★ **Spring Semester Registration DUE**
New Member Coffee
10:30am

19
● **Eat Together Lunch**
12-1:00pm

20
● **On the Road:**
Mark Twain House & Museum,
plus 3-course lunch at
Peppercorn's Grill
8-1:5am-4:00pm
Fee: \$125/\$150NR

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● **Performance:**
Wild & Co.
featuring John Torres
and Ian Trait
1:00pm

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● **Community Table**
with The Ridgefield
Playhouse
12:00pm

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● **Special Event:**
Mystery Masquerade
5:30-7:30pm
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31
● **Step Up Your Pickleball Game:**
Injury Prevention &
Performance Tips
1:00pm

1

2

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Seminar

Public Event

Member Event

Performance

Trip

Reminder

SOCIALS

Facebook: @FoundersHallRidgefield
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YouTube: @FoundersHallRidgefield
LinkedIn: Founders-Hall-Ridgefield

EVENT SPONSOR FOR MARCH
Special Event: Mystery Masquerade



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COMMUNITY PARTNERS & RESOURCES

Commission on Aging



Ridgefield Reads



Meals on Wheels



Ridgefield Library



Soar Together



MARCH MOVIES

Fri. 3/7 at 10:00am **Cleopatra Pt 1** ~ Rated G ~ 3h 53 min, split

Fri. 3/14 at 10:00am **Cleopatra Pt 2** ~ Rated G ~ 3h 53 min, split

Fri. 3/21 at 10:00am **Apollo 13** ~ Rated PG ~ 2h 20min
* Bob Klaeger's Pick of the Month*

Fri. 3/28 at 10:00am **The Phantom of the Opera** ~Rated PG-13 ~ 2h 20min

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.

Quilting:

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

Weaving:

Wednesdays
10:00am-12:00pm, 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.

Garden Club:

April-October
Every 3rd Friday
1:00-2:30pm.



The graphic features a background image of a garden with various flowers in pots. On the left, there is a logo for 'F H GARDEN GATHERING' with a stylized leaf and the tagline 'A hands-on experience of growing and giving.' In the center, there is a 'SAVE THE DATE' section with three boxes: '04 MONTH', '30 DAY', and '25 YEAR'. Below this, there is a paragraph of text describing the event: 'April 30 at 6:30 PM, join us for an enchanting hands-on event to benefit Founders Hall, where you'll design a stunning take-home piece using fresh herbs from Gilbertie's, seeds and potting materials from The Hickories, and vibrant flowers from Purple Heather. As you create, enjoy an exquisite spread of crudités, delicious bites, refreshing drinks, and other delightful surprises. Explore the Founders Hall "Garden Shop" for theme-inspired treasures, perfect for your own garden or as a thoughtful gift. This event is a wonderful way to connect with friends while giving back to Founders Hall.' At the bottom left, it says 'Event Pricing: \$75' and at the bottom right, 'Mark your calendars—don't miss this special gathering!'.

F H
GARDEN
GATHERING
A hands-on experience of growing and giving.

SAVE THE DATE
04 MONTH 30 DAY 25 YEAR

April 30 at 6:30 PM, join us for an enchanting hands-on event to benefit **Founders Hall**, where you'll design a stunning take-home piece using fresh herbs from **Gilbertie's**, seeds and potting materials from **The Hickories**, and vibrant flowers from **Purple Heather**. As you create, enjoy an exquisite spread of crudités, delicious bites, refreshing drinks, and other delightful surprises.

Explore the **Founders Hall "Garden Shop"** for theme-inspired treasures, perfect for your own garden or as a thoughtful gift. This event is a wonderful way to connect with friends while giving back to Founders Hall.

Event Pricing: \$75 Mark your calendars—don't miss this special gathering!

Thank you to our donors
From January 16th- February 17th



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Barbara Capo ^
Kathleen Clayton
Sandy Corday
Christina and Frederick Cowles
Cheryl Crowl
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° Founders Circle

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!