

F|H FOUNDERS HALL F|H



A Message from Nikki:

Spring has arrived, and with it comes fresh energy and exciting changes at Founders Hall! I'd like to extend a heartfelt thank you for your flexibility and understanding as we completed some building projects. Thanks to your patience and support, we now have a beautiful new coffee bar, upgraded kitchen amenities, and state-of-the-art display screens — which will help us share the incredible things happening here and honor the sponsors and donors who make it all possible.

This season also brings a new pep in our step, reflected in our vibrant spring course offerings. The enthusiasm practically jumps off the pages of our course book and into our classrooms!

If you recently participated in our class surveys, thank you for taking the time to share your thoughts. Unsurprisingly, we received glowing feedback about

our talented and dedicated instructors — one of my favorites: “I feel like I’m learning from the best, and having fun doing it!” Your feedback helps us continue to make every experience here enriching and meaningful.

I also want to share a wonderful volunteer opportunity coming up on April 16th. We’ll be partnering with the Boys & Girls Club to prepare flowers for SOAR’s flower recipients. We could use your help! If you’d like to lend a hand and spread a little spring cheer, please reach out to me for more information.

And don’t forget — our much-anticipated Garden Gathering is just around the corner. This is an event you won’t want to miss! Be sure to check out the details inside this newsletter.

Wishing you a joyful and inspiring spring season,

IN THIS NEWSLETTER YOU CAN EXPECT:

A Message from Nikki

Community Updates

April Special Events & Reminders

April Calendar

Welcome New Members

Drop-in Groups

April Movies

Gratitude for our Donors.

Our Stories: Instructors, Members, and Events.



Two-day Billiards Tournament Recap

Our two-day bracket-style Billiards Tournament was full of skill, suspense, and plenty of laughs! Congratulations to Ron, our champion, and Bert, our runner-up!

With lunch on day one, plenty of friendly banter, and even a few colorful words for added flair, there was never a dull moment!

Whether you're a seasoned player or just getting started, all levels are welcome to join in, practice, and rack 'em up for the next game!

The photo above shows members who stayed for the final match, standing alongside the winners.



“Seniors on the Ball”: Founders Hall Basketball Team.

The Founders Hall basketball team, Seniors on the Ball, photographed below and led by the dynamic duo JoAnn Cali and Jim Arcuri, is all about fun, fitness, and friendly competition!

This spirited group hones their skills with drills, then puts it all to the test with a 20-minute half-court scrimmage to wrap up each session.

But they don't stop there! These dedicated players hit the stands to cheer on the RHS girls' basketball team and even take the court themselves for an exciting halftime exhibition game.

What a team, what a community, what a game!



What's Your Sign?

Founders Friday: Cosmic Conversations — was truly out of this world!

Members discovered their astrological signs, connected with others who share the same sign, and enjoyed a fantastic afternoon of fun and connection. We had a huge turnout!

Plus, we were thrilled to feature Lily Fertik, one of our newest instructors for the Spring semester, who showcased her incredible Mixed Media Art class and gave members a sneak peek at the creativity and inspiration her upcoming class will bring.



F|H FOUNDERS HALL F|H

REMINDERS: 

Founders Hall **general hours** are 8:30am-4:30pm.

Friday, April 18th, Founders Hall will not have semester classes, **all FITNESS classes will still be held.**

Spring for Things 2025!

This April, watch flowers bloom throughout Founders Hall — each one marked with a needed item like newspaper subscriptions, exercise bands, stamps, coffee, and more. Want to help? Just pick a flower, attach your donation, and drop it at the front desk. Donate on your own or team up with friends or classmates.

Ridgefield Night Out Gallo & Ridgefield Playhouse **SOLD OUT** 

Friday, April 11th. Although this month's event is sold out, this will be a series that combines a local dinner and event. Don't miss out on signing up for the next Ridgefield Night Out! This month's RNO: Dinner: 5:45, Show 8:00pm

Ridgefield's Key Suffragist, Alice Paul  

Friday, April 25th at 1:00pm. Discover and learn more about the story of Alice Paul, Ridgefield's own suffrage leader, in a dynamic presentation by Darla Shaw, Jean Cole, and Debbie Ahle.


A local legacy that changed history!

Book Discussion: 

Taste: My Life Through Food by Stanley Tucci

Thursday, April 10th at 3:00pm. *Facilitated by The Ridgefield Library.*



Eat Together Lunch 

Thursday, April 17th at 12:00pm bring your own lunch and we will provide sweets. A great way to connect and meet new friends. 


Spring Happy Hour 



Thursday, April 24th at 4:00pm Thanks to our friends at Care Patrol, we'll be adding an extra dose of fun with karaoke — totally optional, but smiles and good times are guaranteed. Sip, snack, sing (if you'd like!), and celebrate the arrival of spring with friends old and new. **Sponsored by Care Patrol.**

Performance:  **Founders Hall Singers** 

Monday, April 28th at 2:00pm. Come listen to the Founders Hall Singers in the library. What a great way to support your fellow members and enjoy their voices. Refreshments will be served.


Founders Friday: Trivia 



Friday, April 11th at 2:00pm.

Join us for an afternoon of fun, laughter, and friendly competition at our next Founders Friday: Trivia! Test your knowledge with four exciting rounds of pub-style trivia — Entertainment, Sports, History, and Nature. Whether you're a trivia buff or just in it for the laughs, it's the perfect way to connect and unwind. We'll have light drinks and crunchy snacks to keep you fueled as you play.

Bring your game face and a friend — and let's make it a Friday to remember! **Sponsored by Ridgefield Station.**

Trash Talk:  **How to reduce waste and save money**

Monday, April 28th at 1:00pm. Many of you are already champions of recycling — we see it every day! But even the most dedicated recyclers can get tripped up by confusing rules and "wishcycling." Join us in the FH Lecture Room for Trash Talk, presented by Jennifer Heaton-Jones, the Executive Director of the regional governmental solid waste and recycling authority, HRRRA.

Garden Gathering 

sponsored by



Wednesday, April 30th at 6:30pm, join us for an enchanting, hands-on event to benefit Founders Hall, where you'll design a 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 crudites, delicious bites, and refreshing drinks. Explore the "Garden Shop", with proceeds donated to Founders Hall, 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. Register at www.founders-hall.org. Tickets are \$75pp.

F | H

April 2025 FOUNDERS HALL CALENDAR

FOUNDERS HALL

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

MONDAY

TUESDAY

WEDNESDAY

THURSDAY

FRIDAY

31
Step Up Your Pickleball Game: Injury Prevention & Performance Tips
1:30pm

1

2

3

4

7

8

9

10
Book Discussion:
Taste: My Life Through Food
by Stanley Tucci
3:00pm

11
Founders Friday:
Tivvia
Sponsored by
Ridgefield Station
2:00pm
SOLD OUT

14

15

16

17
Eat Together Lunch
12:00pm

18
Fitness Classes Only

21

22

23

24
Spring Happy Hour
sponsored by Care Patrol
4:00pm

25
Ridgefield's Key Suffragist,
Alice Paul
1:00pm

Trash Talk:
How to reduce waste and save money
1:00pm
Performance:
Founders Hall Singers
2:00pm

29

30
Garden Gathering
sponsored by Purple Heather Floral Designs, Gilbertie's Organics, & The Hickories
6:30pm

1

2

Seminars and Performances are open to the public.

Seminar

Public Event

Member Event

Performance

Trip

Reminder

SOCIALS

Facebook:
@FoundersHallRidgefield
Instagram:
@founders_hall_ridgefield
You Tube:
@FoundersHallRidgefield
LinkedIn:
Founders-Hall-Ridgefield

Founders Friday:
Tivvia sponsored by



Ridgefield Station

A SENIOR LIVING RESIDENCE (SLR)

Spring Happy Hour sponsored by



CARE Patrol
Your Partner In Senior Care Solutions

Garden Gathering sponsored by

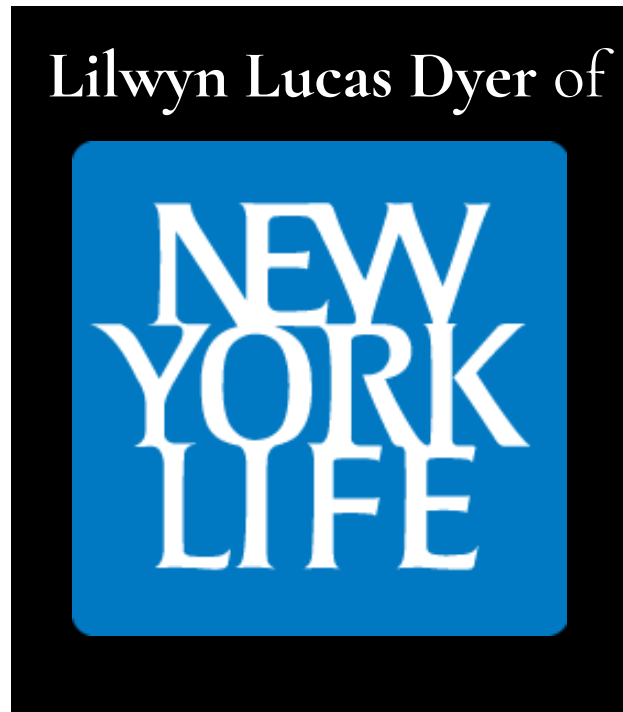


Everything You Wanted to Know About Senior Care

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



Welcome to the Founders Hall Community New members from February 16th- March 15th

- | | | | | | |
|-------------------|-----------------|------------------|----------------------|-----------------------|-------------------|
| Bill Ashley | Gina Darling | Joan Kendall | Steve Maydan | David Rich | Ann-Marie Swantek |
| Heidi Ashley | Betsy DeSoye | Susan Kirshner | David Mazza | Amy Robson | Nancy Szilagy |
| Chris Bance | David Doyle | Sue Komsta | Melissa Murray-Bance | Dale Saltzman | John Taverna |
| Rita Bangser | George Ferrigno | Josette LeFranc | Dennis O'Connell | Ellen Saltzman | Virginia Teichner |
| Jose Beltran | JoAnn Ferrigno | Carol Leibman | Jodi O'Connell | Darwin Schultz | Victor Torchiajiz |
| Rosita Benson | Judi Ford | George Leibman | Ben Ortiz | Kathryn Schumann | Maria Viale |
| Kathy Biagiarelli | Deb Freeman | Anastasia Lester | Susan Payne | Sandy Shepard | Sharon Victor |
| Adela Booth | Jane Frost | Tom Lester | Bill Pelton | Jennifer Shyer | Guy Wheeler |
| David Booth | JoJo Galante | Michael Lynch | Lorraine Piazza | Jackie Sifford-Joyner | Bernie Zuza |
| Ann Callahan | Dee Hallerung | Sy Lynch | Carol Quirolo | Marina Stuart | |
| Pamela Custode | Vic Iorillo | MJ Massie | Joe Quirolo | Joy Studnick | |



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.

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

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

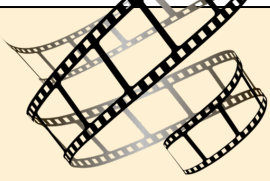
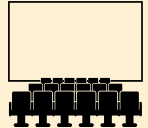
APRIL MOVIES

Friday April 4th at 2:00pm
Walk the Line -Rated PG13 - 2h 10min
 *Ridgefield Night Out

Friday April 18th at 2:00pm
Flamenco - Not Rated - 1h 37min
 *Flamenco with Nikki & Music with Michael

Friday April 25th at 2:00pm
The Truman Show - Rated PG - 1h 42min
 *Ethics in Science with Chris

Movies are held in the first floor Media Room. Please check-in with the front desk first. Thank you and enjoy!
 *Theme of the day.

Thank you to our donors

From February 16th- March 17th



Jeffrey Altman
John and Nancy Amato
Margaret Anderson
Anonymous Donors
Margot Anrico
Josh and Jessica Auerbach
Barbara and David Barenberg
Lia Barone
Bonnie Barrett °
Anita Barrios °
Richard Bauer
Jane Leff and Randy Becker
Nancy Beckett
David and Andrea Beebe
Janet Belote
Robertson and Patricia Bennett
Rosita Benson
Tom Bishop
Steven Blevins
R. E. Bollinger
Michele and Noah Bronkesh
BG and Dale Brown
Kathleen and Paul Burleson
Jane and Jim Byrnes
Fran Caldwell °
JoAnn Cali
Ann Callahan
Linda and Bob Camera
Charlotte Camillos
Barbara and Louis Campagna
Stephanie Campbell ^
Rosemarie Butler and Richard Capasse
Meg and Art Caplan
Barbara Capo ^
Laurel Carey
Georgia Carrington
Karen and Ed Carroll
Lillian Carroll
Donna Case
Sara Champion °
Doty Chapman
Andy Chapman and Susan Taylor
Kerry Christensen
Joseph P. Cleary
Cathy Colby-Grauer
Susan Cole
Joan Colman
Steve Conner
Dr. David L. and Claire Copen
Mary M. Costa
Marie Crai
The Crooker Family
Cheryl Crowl
Deanna Cunningham °
Paula Curry and Robert Bojanek
Gina and Alden Cushman
Angela and Ed D'Onofrio
Jack David
Kate and Harry Dayton
Donna and Chris Devaney
Susan Margolis and Scott DeYoung
Eleanor Doll
Susan Donnell
Carole and John Doorley
Ellen Doubraski
Lloyd Droller
Inga Engstrom
Suzanne and Dwayne Escola
Margaret Eustace
Constance Olson Fenton
George Ferrigno
Barbara and Michael Fisher
Colleen and Earl Flath
Carl and Joan Forcheski
Michele Schor and Steven Fox
Robert F. Fried
Liz and Paul Gafney
Carol and John Gardell
Adeline Gardner
Barbara Gargan
Jean Gaumer

Marcia and Peter Geike
Carol and Ron Giustino
Diana Glubiak
Richard and Evelyn Godbout °^
Nancy Goettman
Rela Golan
Jackie and Leonard Goldner
Nora Gordon
Michael Gorham
Eleanore P. Guida-Gee
Kathy and Altan Gursel
Rabbi Jon and Jean Haddon °
Annie Hartigan
Alice M. Hayes
Fran Head °
Mike and Sue Herron
Karen Holseth-Broekema
Mrs. Ruth I. Holzthum ^
Jean Brennan Horend
Geraldine Hotard
Margot and Paul Ingrassia ^
Jeff and Linda Jaslow
Jane and Andy Jawlik
Mr. and Mrs. Michael P. Jaykus
Craig Johnson ^
Irene Juthnas
Marilyn Kain
Michael and Barbara Kaplan ^
JoAnn Kish
Betty Kloth
Ray and Joyce Koontz
Linda and Jeff Krulwich
Ginny Kuper
Lynn Eichner-Lang and Bill Lang
Paul and Stella Langer
Judy and Joe LaPorta
Diane and Dick Larson
Donna Lawrence
Barbara and William Lawrence
Carl and Christine Lecher
Ellen Lennon
Tom Lesko °^
Vera Leslie
Patricia Ligos
Marilyn and Steven Lipman
Miriam Lodieski
Denis and Mary Ellen Loncto
Carole Long ^
Joseph Loonan and Linda MacDonald
Joan and Brendan Loughlin
Adelia and Jeff Lubitz
Susan and Dieter Luelsdorf
Ann and Jeff Lundberg
Sy and Michael Lynch
Lucille and Doug Macklem
Dolores MacNeill °
Maree Macpherson
Frank and Sharon Madden ^
Noreen and Bill Magill
Kathy Maglieri
Marietta Mahoney
Sal Mannuccia and Janet Gebbia Mannuccia °^
Jeanne Manto
Maria and Carmine Marallo
Carolyn Marble-Weuling
Kate Markert
Anne T. Martin °^
Paul Martin
John McAuliffe
Mary Pat and James McConnell
Kathleen and Mike McDermott
Patti McEvoy Maloney
Patricia McGeary
Eileen and Tom McIntyre
Maureen and Scott McLam
The Meek Foundation
Dr. Adeline Merrill
Marilyn Mezzo ^
Bill Mikulewicz and Sara Schrage
Caroline Molyneux
Susan and John Morrison
Jane Morrison
Helen Mannis and Fritz Mundorff ^
Deborah Murphy
Janet Nelson
Fran Nielsen-Vazquez
John and Elaine Noonan
Tom O'Grady
Kathleen O'Neill

Patricia O'Shea
Joan Ogren
Marge Okapal
John and Marnie Olson
Linda Ortiz
Mr. and Mrs. William Osgood °
Carla Palmer
Alberta and Bob Pappolla
Carol Paterson
Carla Pehowski
Marianne Pei ^
Karen Pellecchia
Brian and Lori Peterson
The Petruzzelli Family
Jim Phelps °
Tina Phillips °^
John and Robin Phillips
John and Mary Pierandri
Rebecca Podore
Ed Powers
Mary Laura Pritchard °
Mary Ellen Raab
Elizabeth and Marc Rabinowitz
Martha Rajaratnam
Maureen and Pat Reville
Susan and Jerry Richter
Cynthia Rigby
Theresa Riina
Cindy Rio
Amy Robson
Kent and Margaret Rohrer ^
John Romano
Ronnie Ross
Clemencia Saleeby
Joel Schechter
Steve Schneider
Lenore Schneider
Lillian Sherdal
Ron and Cecilia Shirk
Steve and Myrna Shomstein
Barbara Sinclair
David B. Smith and Maria Victor-Smith
Robert Smith
Sherie Snyder
Michael and Karen Soltis
Nancy Spielmann
The Staples Family ^
Virginia Strauch
Joanie Streets
Bobbe Stultz
Lynne Swanson
Polly and Ray Tafrate ^
James and Ellen Tarsi ^
Helene Taylor °
Lisa and Joe Ternullo
Joel H. Third ^
Mary Tobin
Peter A. Torzilli
Mike and Ria Trinkle
Terry McManus and Brian Truskowski
Maureen Tucker
Diane Usas °^
Angus Vail
Bert and Cynthia Veilleux
Debra Wagner
Judith Wald
Meg and Jerry Waye
Jean and Clifford Webb
Mark and Grace Weber °^
Sharon Weingard
Joan and Guy Wheeler
Teresa and Cahal Whelan
Andrea and Robert Whitton
Margaret Wiener
Gayle Gleckner and Tony Woolner
Patricia Yaffa
Doris and Bob Yates
Anthony Zeolla

^ Monthly Donor
° 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.

Board of Directors

Lori Berisford
Brenda Berta
Chris Couri
Liz Goldstone
Steven Goldstone

Jenn Kubick
Rudy Marconi
Kent Rohrer
Rudy Ruggles

Thank you for reading!