

HIGH RIDGE HOUSE

Winter 2024

What a Wonderful Year It Has Been

As 2024 draws to a close, the High Ridge House community can look back upon a year of progress, challenges, abundant blessings, and joy— so much joy.

Each day, our Christian Science nurses have provided loving care to “honest seekers,” both here in Riverdale as well as across the Tri-state area as we have witnessed an expansion of our home nursing program. Our Christian

Science nurses have traveled from Long Island to Connecticut, supporting those relying on Christian Science in a manner that has enabled them to remain in their homes.



Andrew Brewis at the High Ridge House piano.

We have provided more comprehensive care and a refuge here at our facility, a mission that High Ridge has fulfilled for more than 50 years. This loving care is available to all, regardless of their ability to pay.

We can do this because of you. Thank you.

We also opened our doors this past year to welcome in family and friends. Many came for our traditional 4th of July Picnic that included a sing-along led by Osceola Davis.

Later in July, we enjoyed a concert featuring Andrew Brewis, whom many of you know from his popular CDs. Afterwards, people lingered to visit with one another and enjoy yummy

refreshments prepared by our kitchen staff.

A vital event this past year was the High Ridge House Annual Meeting. Held in September, it included a report

from me, as Executive Director, as well as one from Marilyn Bradshaw, our Board President.

We were also blessed by a metaphysical talk provided by Blythe Evans, CS. If

you were unable to attend or if you wish to review the wonderful ideas that Blythe shared, a recording is available on our website— www.HighRidgeHouse.org.



Brian Stock, CEO of Tenacre; with Osceola Davis, who led our sing-along; and Joan Gaylord, HRH Executive Director.

Yes, it has been a blessed year, including the financial support that we have received in 2024 from our High Ridge House community. We are grateful for each one of you.

As we prepare to turn the calendar page, we look forward to seeing you soon and continuing this joyful conversation.

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Charlie Youngblood, HRH Board Treasurer, with Blythe Evans, CS, the speaker for our Annual Meeting.

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Joan'.

Joan Gaylord, Executive Director

Important Documents

There are two important legal documents that we encourage everyone to make sure to have in their personal files— a Health Care Proxy (HCP) and a Power of Attorney (POA).

The HCP identifies who you would want to make decisions regarding your care should you, at any time, be unable to articulate your preferences. The POA identifies who would attend to your finances, including monthly bills, investments, and any property you might have. When properly executed, both documents are legally binding and allow you to exercise control over your experience.

Here at High Ridge House, we require both documents before we can fully process an admission. While it is wise to already have them on hand, especially if there are any matters you would want to discuss with your attorney, we can help people properly execute these using standard forms provided by New York State.

For signatures to be valid, a person must be of clear thought at the time they complete the forms. The process also requires the signatures of two witnesses, as well as verification of all the signatures by a notary, a service that one of our staff members is qualified to provide. The POA form also requires a legal signature by the person you want to appoint as your agent. This may be another reason to have completed documents in your files, as that person might not be the one to accompany you should you ever wish to be admitted to High Ridge.

For residents of New York, we can email you PDFs of the NYS forms to print at home. Notaries are frequently available where you do your banking. It is wise to discuss your choices with the people you wish to select to ensure they are willing to fulfill the responsibilities and are aware of your preferences.

An Inspired Testimony

Dear Friends,

I had the opportunity to visit High Ridge House late last Spring for the first time in several years. I had been a volunteer and had spent much time at High Ridge in the past, but this time it felt different. As I parked, I noticed changes. There was attention to the building and grounds that felt cared for and inviting. When I walked through the front door, I was greeted with a sense of light, love, and cheer. It was then that I noticed subtle changes. The walls had been painted, carpets cleaned, and brighter lighting. There was a difference and it was palpable!

I was welcomed with such warmth and joy, and I knew this was how everyone would be greeted when walking through the door. It made me think of Mrs. Eddy's article "The New Birth" where she states:

Would you like to volunteer? High Ridge House has need of you. Call our number, 718-796-4200, and ask for Gabby. She would love to discuss ideas—maybe reading for our Wednesday or Sunday services? Activities with our patients? Thank you for opening your heart to this possibility.

"The spiritual sense of Life and its grand pursuits is of itself a bliss, health-giving and joy-inspiring. This sense of Life illumines our pathway with the radiance of divine Love; heals man spontaneously, morally and physically,— exhaling the aroma of Jesus' own words, 'Come

unto me, all ye that labor and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest.'" (Misc.19: 31)

I thought to myself, this atmosphere is what supports Christian Science nursing and provides for those who are seeking healing. This led me to find what I could do to be a support to help forward the healing mission of High Ridge House. I invite each of you to experience the welcome of visiting High Ridge and the joy of giving whatever time and talents you have to share!

—A Volunteer from New Jersey

Community

“Pure humanity, friendship, home, the interchange of love,
bring to earth a foretaste of heaven.” Misc.100: 22-24

We have talked a lot this year about “community.” Cherishing our community has been the basis of very necessary fundraising efforts— and you have responded. Some of you have made one-time contributions while others have joined Circle of Love, our monthly giving program. Your financial gifts have been vital as they allow us to keep a promise we have made to our community to never turn anyone away if they are unable to pay for skilled Christian Science nursing care.

The need continues. Please open your heart and consider if you might donate at this time. We accept checks and, on our website, credit cards, Venmo, Paypal, and Apple Pay. Or call! Thank you.

From Our Board

Dear Friends,

In her article, “The Cry of Christmastide,” Mary Baker Eddy says, “In different ages the divine idea assumes different forms, according to humanity’s needs. In this age it assumes, more intelligently than ever before, the form of Christian healing. This is the babe we are to cherish.” (Misc., p. 370:12–15, to 2nd .)

At High Ridge House, we cherish Christian healing above all else. To ensure an atmosphere conducive to healing, our staff strives to express order, harmony, efficiency, and lovingkindness in every activity. Our dear Christian Science nurses provide excellent skilled care both at our facility and in home visits as they embody the Christly love and spiritual understanding that are essential to spiritual healing.

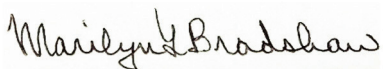
We are so grateful for the many friends, supporters, and volunteers who join us in furthering our important mission of love. High Ridge House is strengthened by the prayers, goodwill, good work, appreciation, and encouragement expressed by this large community of right thinkers.

Christian Science nursing is uniquely valuable to those in need who are seeking pure, spiritual healing. High Ridge House lovingly cares for these dear ones, and stands as a bulwark, confirmation, and witness of the practice of Christian Science in the New York area and beyond.

We received many donations this year, both large and small, and we are deeply grateful for each one, as evidence of divine Love’s provision and of the giver’s love and appreciation. However, increased financial support is needed to sustain the loving, beneficent work that High Ridge House is doing.

As we all cherish the babe of Christian healing, let us unite in faith in our Leader’s assurance: “This is the babe that twines its loving arms about the neck of omnipotence, and calls forth infinite care from His loving heart.” (Misc., p. 370:16)

With love and warm wishes for a blest Christmas season,



Marilyn L. Bradshaw, President



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Winter 2024

It seems we have a new neighbor. This lovely peregrine falcon has been gracing our property lately—riding the air currents and resting in tree branches. Noni, the head of our maintenance department, recently captured this photo. Once again, we marvel when we consider that High Ridge House is located in New York City. Come visit and discover the beauty for yourself.

