UNITED STATES

SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION

Washington, D.C. 20549

FORM 8-K

CURRENT REPORT

Pursuant to Section 13 or 15(d) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934

Date of Report (Date of Earliest Event Reported): December 3, 2004

VENTAS, INC.

(Exact Name of Registrant as Specified in Its Charter)

Delaware (State or Other Jurisdiction 1-10989 (Commission File Number) 61-1055020 (IRS Employer

of Incorporation)

Identification No.)

10350 Ormsby Park Place, Suite 300, Louisville, Kentucky (Address of Principal Executive Offices) 40223 (Zip Code)

Registrant s Telephone Number, Including Area Code: (502) 357-9000

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Not Applicable

(Former Name or Former Address, if Changed Since Last Report)

Check the appropriate box below if the Form 8-K filing is intended to simultaneously satisfy the filing obligation of the Registrant under any of the following provisions:

- " Written communications pursuant to Rule 425 under the Securities Act (17 CFR 230.425)
- " Soliciting material pursuant to Rule 14a-12 under the Exchange Act (17 CFR 240.14a-12)
- " Pre-commencement communications pursuant to Rule 14d-2(b) under the Exchange Act (17 CFR 240.14d-2(b))
- " Pre-commencement communications pursuant to Rule 13e-4(c) under the Exchange Act (17 CFR 240.13e-4(c))

Item 8.01. Other Events.

On December 3, 2004, Ventas, Inc. (the Company) announced that its Board of Directors declared a regular quarterly dividend of \$0.325 per share, payable in cash on January 13, 2005 to stockholders of record on January 3, 2005. The dividend is the fourth quarterly installment of the Company s \$1.30 per share 2004 annual dividend.

A copy of the press release issued by the Company on December 3, 2004 is filed herewith as Exhibit 99.1 and incorporated in this Item 8.01 by reference.

Item 9.01. Financial Statements and Exhibits.

(a) Financial Statements of Businesses Acquired.

Not applicable.

(b) Pro Forma Financial Information.

Not applicable.

(c) Exhibits:

Exhibit

Number	Description
99.1	Press Release issued by the Company on December 3, 2004.

SIGNATURES

Pursuant to the requirements of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, the Registrant has duly caused this report to be signed on its behalf by the undersigned thereunto duly authorized.

VENTAS, INC.

Date: December 3, 2004

By: /s/ T. Richard Riney

T. Richard Riney Executive Vice President, General

Counsel and Corporate Secretary

EXHIBIT INDEX

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