

# Ridge Notes

## Ridgeway, South Carolina



## Revitalization, Responsibility, Relationships

### Only in South Carolina

The Town of Ridgeway was named one of “The 11 Most Underrated Cities in South Carolina You Gotta Check Out” in Only in South Carolina, Robin Jarvis. Ridgeway was touted because of the businesses downtown and featured Laura’s Tea Room. Other towns and cities included in the list are: Abbeville, Ridgeway, Bluffton, Newberry, Seneca, Landrum, Anderson and Aiken. Thank you to Laura’s Tea Room, downtown businesses and our citizens who continue to make Ridgeway a special place to visit, work and live.

### Priorities for 2016-2017

Town Council established priorities per the components of the Strategic Plan and committee input for the Town of Ridgeway for 2016-2017.

#### Organization

- Improve internal/external communication via technology
- Investigate expansion of town limits

#### Services – Utilities

- Repair or replace in- town water tank

#### Services – Safety, Police Department

- Find funding to hire second police officer or some form of additional assistance

#### Economic Development

- Explore form based codes for mixed residential/commercial use of downtown
- Investigate possible developers for more business space downtown, lodging and home sites in the area

#### Historical Cultural

- Implement a plan for restoration of the old school site (grant for funding)

#### Public Relations

- Create and fund additional downtown banners for events

#### Community Actions

- Establish a community garden
- Coordinate Christmas Parade

### Front Porch Lights

The holidays are over and many citizens have commented that they miss the lights in town in our businesses and homes. Town Council encourages our citizens to turn on their front porch lights at sunset in an effort to make our Town more inviting and safe. When everyone joins together, it is amazing how the simplest things can make the Town appear more comfortable, secure and pleasant.

### Arts on the Ridge

Arts on the Ridge will celebrate its 10<sup>th</sup> Anniversary on May 6-7, 2016. The committee under the direction of Phyllis Gutierrez is already working to make this a special event to recognize the talents of our community of adults and students. Besides the traditional poster, a coloring book, "Color Ridgeway with the Arts", will be created to include sketches of homes and places in Ridgeway, and the work of local artists. If you have a sketch you would like to submit for possible publication in the coloring book, please contact Phyllis Gutierrez at 803-337-8675. Work will be collected in the month of February. You may also bring your sketch to Town Hall.

### Geiger Elementary School

Our Ridgeway school, Geiger Elementary School, needs your volunteer efforts regarding the following programs:

New Town Lunch Buddy Program – Volunteers who will come and have lunch and conversations with fourth graders from 11:40 a.m. - 12:00 p.m. monthly

Career Café – Volunteers who will share their careers with twenty 5<sup>th</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup> grade students during lunch. The activity will only take about 30 minutes between 12:00 p.m. – 12:30 p.m. These career clusters will be featured: 1) Architecture & Construction, 2) Business, Management, & Administration, 3) Education & Training, 4) Finance, 5) Information Technology, 6) Marketing, Sales, & Service, 7) Transportation, Distribution, & Logistics

Adopt a Classroom – Volunteer to work with individual classrooms on various tasks and at various times. If you are willing to volunteer for any of the above programs or have additional questions, contact School Counselor, Sierra Hughes at Geiger Elementary School, 803-337-8288 or by email [shughes@fairfield.k12.sc.us](mailto:shughes@fairfield.k12.sc.us)

### Ridgeway Salutes You!

Thanks to.....

- Unity Walk participants and organizers.
- Contributors of artifacts to the Ridgeway Museum such as old receipts, a cookbook, and photograph of the Century House.
- Additional volunteers who have stepped up to deliver Meals on Wheels.
- Public Relations Committee for having a book talk in January for the community.

### Calendar of Events:

February 2, 2016	Fairfield County Arts Meeting, Town Hall	6:00 p.m.
February 3, 2016	Ridgeway Volunteer Fire Dept. Meeting	7:00 p.m.
February 3, 2016	Historical/Cultural Committee Meeting, Town Hall	6:00 p.m.
February 5, 2016	First Friday – Mardi Gras, Downtown Ridgeway	5:00-9:00 p.m.
February 10, 2016	Ridgeway Merchants Meeting, Town Hall	5:30 p.m.
February 11, 2016	Ridgeway Town Council Meeting, Town Hall	6:30 p.m.
February 18, 2016	Fairfield County Intergovernmental Meeting	
	Town of Ridgeway, Hosts – Ridgeway Town Hall	6:30 p.m.
February 26, 2016	Ridgeway Reads, Home of Darlene Embleton	10:30 a.m.