

Ridge Notes

Ridgeway, South Carolina



Revitalization, Responsibility, Relationships

A New Year of Peace

If there is light in the soul
There will be beauty in the person.
If there is beauty in the person
There will be harmony in the house.
If there is harmony in the house
There will be order in the nation.
If there is order in the nation
There will be peace in the world.

Chinese Proverb

Highlights in 2016 Revitalization, Responsibility, Relationship

Revitalization

New School: The Barclay School moved to 631 Longtown Road in Ridgeway from Columbia College to serve the needs of elementary and secondary students.

New Businesses: Branham's Barbeque, An Artisan Studio, and The Little Shop opened their businesses in Ridgeway.

Grants: Over a half million dollars in grants was awarded to the Town. PARD (\$80,250) Children's Playground; RIA (\$500,000 (\$97,950-Town's Portion) Water Tank Replacement; and MASC Hometown Economic Development Grant (\$25,000) Restoration of three iconic sites, Smallest Police Station/Visitor's Center, Phone Booth, and the Ridgeway School Arch area.

Responsibility

Town Council: Election of Angela Harrison and reelection of Doug Porter and Donald Prioleau to Council. Council members' participation in the Basic Municipal Elective Officials Institute Sessions. Mayor Herring graduated from the Advanced Municipal Elective Officials Institute.

Zoning Administrator: Rick Johnson was appointed to the position. Thanks to the service of Patty Cookendorfer.

Safety: Officer Chris Culp was promoted to Chief of Police.

Town Commissions, Boards, and Committees: Supported their town government via meetings and meeting strategic goals.

Capital Improvements: Sidewalk repair of portions of Palmer Street with CTC funds from the SCDOT. Town Hall repair of outside columns.

Relationships

Citizen Recognitions: Citizen of the Year and Friend of the Arts Recipient – Darlene Embleton; Entrepreneur of the Year – The Farm at Ridgeway, Larry Sharpe and Family.

Public Relations: Arts on the Ridge – Production of the Ridgeway Coloring Book and event posters/banners.

Events: Pig on the Ridge, Arts on the Ridge, Promenade on the Ridge, Holidays on the Ridge, the Big Grab, Minis Take the US, First Fridays, Ridgeway Shop Small Saturday, The Unity Walk, and the Back to School Prayer Walk. Employees, Merchants, Citizens and Volunteers in our community who make Ridgeway a great place to live, work and shop.

Town Priorities for 2017

Town Council will have a work session on Thursday, January 19, 2017 at 6:30 pm at Town Hall to set priorities for 2017 from our Strategic Plan. The community is welcome to join us and offer recommendations.

Municipal Association of South Carolina Advocacy Initiatives for 2017

Initiatives are as follows: Increase law enforcement training; repair roads; reduce blight; encourage business growth and development, and provide services.

Ridgeway Acts of Kindness

- Thank you to all our committees, citizens, and merchants who supported Holidays on the Ridge this year.
- Kudos to the Barclay School for becoming a distribution site for Food Share South Carolina. Contact them at 631 Longtown Road, Ridgeway, SC 29130 or at 803-629-6318 if interested in participating in this program to purchase fresh fruits and vegetables at a reasonable price twice a month.

Calendar of Events

January 1, 2017	Happy New Year	
January 2, 2017	(office closed)	
January 3, 2017	Fairfield County Arts Council, Town Hall	6:00 pm
January 4, 2017	Fire Department Meeting	7:30 pm
January 11, 2017	Merchants Meeting, Town Hall	5:30 pm
January 12, 2017	Ridgeway Town Council Meeting, Town Hall	6:30 pm
January 16, 2017	Unity Walk, Town Hall (office closed)	10:00 am
January 19, 2017	Town Council Work Session, Town Hall	6:30 pm
January 22, 2017	Ridgeway Reads, Embleton Home	3:00 pm