February 2015, Issue 106

Ridge Notes

Ridgeway, South Carolina

Revitalization,
Responsibility,
Relationships

Cities Mean Business

If Cities Mean Business, then Ridgeway is "en" business, Entrepreneurial Business. The Town of Ridgeway starts the New Year off by welcoming "Royal Greens" to the site of the old Charm Building.

Fairfield County South Carolina Selected for New Hydroponic Facility

Royal Gorda, LLC of Punta Gorda, Florida, announced that they have leased a 126,000 square foot facility in the Town of Ridgeway, in Fairfield County, South Carolina. The company will be producing hydroponically grown vegetables under the name Royal Greens.

Milton Pope, the Fairfield County Administrator, was initially contacted by the company and orchestrated the meeting with the State, County, and City economic development officials. The officials met with company representatives at the offices of Mayor Charlene Herring where developmental incentives and company plans were discussed. Royal Gorda, LLC looks to make the facility their central base of operations and training. They project 400 trainees for other locations will each spend several months training at the facility over the next five years. Royal Greens will commence operations on January 15, 2015, and will eventually employ 300 full time employees at the Ridgeway facility in Fairfield County.

Milton Pope and other officials welcomed the company and promised to work with them to make their selection of Fairfield County and Ridgeway a successful venture.

Press Release
Sarah McCants, Royal Greens

Emma and Lillie's Cottage Goods

Emma and Lillie's Cottage Goods operated by Phil and Gwen Lenzen will open on February 4, 2015 in the former site of Poo Pies Elite Repeats at 165-A Palmer Street. The business will sell home made goods such as jams, pickles, grits, soup, honey and much more from food artisans in South Carolina as well as cottage items such as soap, glassware, linen, books etc. You can also grab a cup of coffee and baked goods, breads and sweets, in the store from Wednesdays - Saturdays.

Town Meeting Agenda Items

To promote community involvement and communication about the Town of Ridgeway, proposed agenda items for meetings will be shared in the Ridge Notes. Agenda items may vary because of timing and availability of information. The official agenda is posted at Town Hall 24 hours prior to the meeting. Items for February 12, 2015 for possible inclusion but not limited to are as follows:

- Norfolk Southern Railroad Lease
- Fairfield County Recreation Plan for District #1
- Water/Sewer Utility Crisis Plan and Severe Weather, Hazardous Situation Nuclear Alarm Plan
- Economic Development: Hospitality Tax and other items

Cultural Communicators

The Go Forth Chapter of the Institute for Cultural Communicators (ICC) is hosting a regional speech and debate tournament in Ridgeway February 27-28 at Aimwell Presbyterian Church.

The mission of ICC is "to equip Christians to shape the future through authentic leadership and cultural communication." The Go Forth chapter invites the Ridgeway community to participate as community evaluators. Evaluators will be trained at the tournament. The investment of your time will provide valuable feedback to these students, ages 11-18, training to become better communicators.

Evaluators are needed Friday, February 27, 3:00 p.m. -7:00 p.m. and Saturday February 28, 8:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m. for approximately two hours periods. For more information about ICC, please go to www.iccinc.org. To volunteer as an evaluator, please contact Dede Ruff at johndederuff@truvista.net.

Congratulation and Thank You to:

- Terrall Roach, Athletic Director of Fairfield Central High School for coordinating the Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Memorial Breakfast on Saturday, January 17, 2015
- Dream Keeper Honorees: Logan Wade, Faith Johnson, Gene Stephens, Fairfield High Alumni Association, Lebanon Presbyterian Men's Council and the Robertson family
- Lebanon Presbyterian Church, Bethlehem Baptist Church, White Oak #1 Baptist Church, and committee members chaired by Donald Prioleau who organized the Martin Luther King, Jr. Breakfast, Unity Walk and Prayer Service and all those who participated on Monday, January 19, 2015 in the Town of Ridgeway.
- Sandy Vassallo, author of Lavender and Earl Gray Tea, who appeared at the Ridgeway Reads Book club on January 17, 2015 to share excerpts from her book which mentions Laura's Tea Room in Ridgeway.
- London Boulware, Geiger Elementary School, 3rd Place National Beta Club Scholar Winner at the National Beta Club Convention in Myrtle Beach

Arts on the Ridge 2015
Opening Doors to the Arts & History Needs Your Help

We are asking our artists to pull out your paints, charcoals, pen and ink, camera or computer and help us design the logo for our 2015 Arts on the Ridge. It must feature doors, a reference to history, and of course, Ridgeway. The winner will be announced on Tuesday, April 1, 2015 at the Fairfield County Arts Council meeting. The winner will have his/her work displayed on posters that will be offered for sale during this year's event. Deadline for submission is March 3, 2015. Please drop off your artwork at The Century House before this time. As a reminder, this must be original artwork.

Calendar of Events:

February 3, 2015	Fairfield Arts Council Meeting, Town Hall	6:00 p.m.
February 4, 2015	Ridgeway Fire Dept Meeting	7:00 p.m.
February 11, 2015	Merchants Meeting, Town Hall	5:30 p.m.
February 12, 2015	Ridgeway Town Council Meeting	6:30 p.m.
February 21, 2015	Fairfield Remembers Sherman Old Brick Church, Century House	9:00am-11:30
	150th Observance Carolina Campaign Through Fairfield County Fairfield County Museum	11:30am-4:00pm
February 23, 2015	Tribute to Herman Young, Retired Sheriff of Fairfield County, Carolina Event Center.	5:30 p.m.
February 28, 2015	Ridgeway Reads, Embleton Home	10:30 a.m.