January 2015, Issue 105

Ridge Notes

Ridgeway, South Carolina

Revitalization,
Responsibility,
Relationships

Highlights in 2014
Town of Ridgeway, Revitalization, Responsibility, Relationships

Revitalization

- **New Businesses**: Poo Pies Elite Repeats, 625 Exchange, Olde Town Hall Restaurant and Pub, and Magnolia Lodge opened their doors in Ridgeway.
- **Art Gallery**: Opening of an Art Gallery in Over the Top for artists to display and sell their art as well as conduct classes per support of the Fairfield County Arts Council.
- **Grants**: Rural Infrastructure Authority Grant for Wastewater Treatment Plant Upgrades ($220,000); Fairfield County Community Enhancement Grant ($1000)
- **Municipal Association of South Carolina Achievement Award**: One Tank Town Goes Social for Economic Development – Redesigned website and use of social media and QR codes to keep visitors returning to Ridgeway to shop, dine and tour.
- **Publicity**: WACH Fox TV featured the Town of Ridgeway on the early morning show with Tyler Ryan. Sergio Hudson won a national award for his fashion designs and brought attention to his hometown, Town of Ridgeway.

Responsibility

- **Town Council Election**: Election and reelection of council representatives Heath Cookendorfer, Russ Brown and Charlene Herring to serve the community
- **MASC**: Election of Mayor Herring to the South Carolina Municipal Association Board of Directors
- **Safety**: Hiring Antonio Addison as Police Officer for the Town of Ridgeway
- **Finances**: Maintaining a sound operating budget. CPA Howard Nichols deemed the Town in good financial shape.
- **Strategic Planning**: Engaging the community in planning for the future of Ridgeway and setting priorities
- **Utilities**: Establishing a Utility Director, Robert Arndt, for water and wastewater services
- **Capital Improvements**: Bicycle racks and event sign holders were purchased by the Arts on the Ridge Committee. Pig on the Ridge Monument, benches, and landscaping were funded by the Pig on the Ridge Steering Committee. Land was deeded to Ridgeway by Fairfield County for use as a community garden.

Relationships

- **Citizen Recognitions**: Entrepreneur of the Year - R. H. Lee and Sons; Citizen of the Year- Nelson Lacy; Friends of the Arts Award – Phyllis Gutierrez; Ridgeway Arts on the Ridge Poster Winner – Susan McFaddin; Fairfield County Chamber Business of the Year, R. H. Lee and Sons; and youngest Certified Firefighter – Trey Adams.
- **Events**: Pig on the Ridge; Arts on the Ridge; Holidays on the Ridge, Christmas on the Ridge and Parade; Promenade on the Ridge; Memorial –Veterans Day Tribute; Big Grab; Movies in the Yard, Cruising on the Ridge and the volunteers in the community, churches and schools who made all of the events possible.

Strategic Plan Priorities for Ridgeway in 2015
Town Council and Community Involvement

- **Recommendation**: Identify potential revenue for the Town.
  Action: Research and consider Accommodations Tax and Hospitality Tax available to the Town of Ridgeway.
- **Recommendation**: Evaluate the Town's current water and sewer infrastructure.
  Action: Hire engineering firm to continue to evaluate systems and make recommendations on upgrades for capacity, expansion, and current contract with Winnsboro.
- **Recommendation**: Find funding to hire a second police officer.
  Action: Continue to seek funding source for additional officers.

Ridgeway Acts of Kindness

Thank you to all our citizens, employees, merchants, schools, churches, and town committees for making Christmas on the Ridge a wonderful event for all. Also we appreciate the community members who sponsored the Palmetto Pipes and Drums and First Citizens for the trophies for the parade.
There was much joy in the Town of Ridgeway because of your giving spirits!

Calendar of Events

January 1, 2015	New Year's Day (office closed)
January 6, 2015	Fairfield County Arts Council Meeting, 6:30 pm
January 7, 2015	Fire Department Meeting, 7:00 pm
January 8, 2015	Ridgeway Town Council Meeting, 6:30 pm
January 17, 2015	Ridgeway Reads, 10:30 am
January 19, 2015	Martin Luther King Day (office closed)
	Unity Walk, 10:00 am

Marching on In Faith – Realizing the Dream

Please join us in our Unity Walk

Date: January 19, 2015

Time: 10:00 a.m.

Location: Ridgeway Town Hall
170 South Dogwood Ave
Ridgeway SC 29130

To end at: Lebanon Presbyterian Church (USA)
667 US Highway 21 South
Ridgeway SC 29130

Boxed lunches will be provided.