June 2014, Issue 98

Ridge Notes

Ridgeway, South Carolina

Revitalization,
Responsibility,
Relationships

Entrepreneur of the Year 2014
R. H. Lee and Company

Doing business as usual can be appropriately applied to most small businesses but certainly not to R.H. Lee and Company in Ridgeway, South Carolina. R. H. Lee and Company has been a family owned and operated business since 1977 before relocating to Ridgeway. The business is a full time, full service company specializing in R.E.A.L. Auctions, real estate, estate, antiques and liquidations. The business is housed in a renovated auction gallery which once was an A-Model Ford dealership and cotton warehouse.

R. H. Lee and Company as a business has been a magnet attracting visitors and shoppers to Ridgeway while also meeting the needs of local citizenry in purchasing real estate and furnishing their homes with items characteristic of their historic houses.

While considered a traditional auction business related to real estate, estate, onsite auctions and liquidations, it is their online auction venue that has set them apart as entrepreneurs in Ridgeway and in the State. The company has actually reinvented itself to meet the needs of tech savvy customers.

Buyers bid on line from all over South Carolina, North Carolina, Georgia and the United States and then journey to Ridgeway to pick up their merchandise while also shopping in other stores, touring, and dining. R. H. Lee and Company has a spectacular web site which not only touts their business but Ridgeway as well. They also have a presence on Facebook and Twitter.

In the small historic Town of Ridgeway, honoring tradition is important but so is embracing change realistically and using it to foster business development while improving the quality of life. R. H. Lee and Company embodies these concepts as they have preserved tradition in restoring and repurposing an old historic building and selling antiques while making use of 21 Century technology to not only market their business but Ridgeway as well. The company supports the Ridgeway Merchants Association and various events such as Pig on the Ridge and Arts on the Ridge. This year the business was showcased on Arts on the Ridge in “Opening Doors to Arts and Antiques” on May 3, 2014 with an online auction and in house viewing for festival attendees. Congratulations R. H. Lee and Sons, Justin and Jake Lee.

If Cities Mean Business then Ridgeway is En Business, Entrepreneurial Business.

The 625 Exchange

The 625 Exchange located at 120 S. Palmer Street is open for business, Thursday through Saturday from 11:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m. Owned and operated by the Ruffs, John and Dede, the consignment business offers furniture, home décor, and gifts. The business is named for the elevation of the water tower in town that states 625. A marker to such can be found on one of the Ruff buildings. For additional information contact Dede Ruff at 803-337-0625.

Deanne's Creations

Deanne's Creations has moved to the former site of Just Around the Corner at 128 S. Palmer Street, effective June, 2014. Make sure you visit them at their new location.

Rosa's Hair Salon

Rosa's Hair Salon is celebrating nine years of doing business in Ridgeway. We appreciate her service to the men and women of our community.

Ridgeway Kudos to…

- Phyllis Gutierrez, recipient of the Fairfield County Arts Council, Friend of the Arts Award for 2014.
- Emily Susan McFaddin whose photograph of the old Ridgeway school archway was chosen as the poster for this year's festival, "Opening Doors to Arts and Antiques". The poster can be purchased at the Cotton Yard Market.
- Dan Ruff of Ruff's Hardware, pictured in the new book "Reflections of South Carolina" by Robert C. Clark and Tom Poland. The smallest police station was also photographed. The book was just released Saturday, May 17, 2014 at the S. C. Book Event in Columbia.
- The Town of Ridgeway for being a recipient of a $220,000 grant from the Rural Infrastructure Authority for Waste Water Treatment Plant Upgrades.

Ridgeway Acts of Kindness
R.A.K.
Opening Doors at Arts and Antiques, 2014

- Thanks to Phyllis Gutierrez chair of the Arts on the Ridge Event and committee members Darlene Embleton, Tom Hall, Tina Johnson, Virginia Lacy, Karen Ruff and Virginia Schaeffer for a great artistic event. We also appreciate our sponsors: The Town of Ridgeway, Pig on the Ridge Committee, First Citizens Bank and Trust, Fairfield County Arts Council, Karen Edwards Ruff, Thistle Hill Farm, SCTravelonline.com, Insurance of Fairfield, Virginia and Nelson Lacy, Fairfield County Chamber of Commerce, Linda McClaughlin Dye, and Rick Johnson Polygraph. The event would not have been possible without our Ridgeway Merchants' presentations, artists, vendors, and antique dealers. May 2-3, 2014 were enjoyable days spent in Ridgeway viewing art, listening to music and buying creative treasures. Check out Facebook and the website for pictures of Arts on the Ridge. www.ridgewaysc.org

MASC Award Filming

- Town Council extends our gratitude to employees, citizens, and merchants for your preparation for the filming of Ridgeway for the Municipal Achievement Award: "One Tank Town Goes Social for Economic Development".

Calendar of Events

June 4, 2014	Fairfield County Chamber Breakfast, The Thomas Company Store 7:30am
June 4, 2014	Fire Department #7 Meeting
June 6, 2014	First Friday, Downtown Ridgeway, Crusin' on the Ridge and Salute to D-Day Veterans, 5:30 pm
June 10, 2014	Fairfield County Arts Council, Town Hall 6:00 pm
June 11, 2014	Merchants Meeting, Town Hall 5:15 pm
June 12, 2014	Ridgeway Town Council Meeting, Town Hall 6:30 pm
June 21, 2014	Ridgeway Reads, Embleton Home 10:30am
June 21, 2014	Annual Faith HIV/Aids Walk, Downtown Ridgeway 9:00 am
June 21/22, 2014	2014 Catawba Regional Ag & Art Tour
June 26, 2014	69th Annual Membership Banquet Fairfield County Chamber of Commerce, The Farm at Ridgeway 5:30pm