



MAILING ADDRESS:
P.O. Box 217
Ridgeland, MS 39158
STREET ADDRESS:
304 Highway 51
Ridgeland, MS 39157
Ph: 601.856.7113
www.ridgelandms.org

Gene F. McGee
Mayor
David W. Overby, CPA
*Director of Finance &
Administration*
City Clerk

BOARD OF ALDERMEN
Ken Heard, *Ward 1*
Chuck Gautier, *Ward 2*
Kevin Holder, *Ward 3*
Larry Roberts, *Ward 4*
Scott Jones, *Ward 5*
Linda S. Davis, *Ward 6*
Gerald Steen, *At-Large*
Mayor Pro-Tempore

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

For more information, contact Gene F. McGee, 601-856-7113

RIDGELAND NAMED BEST SMALL CITY FOR STARTUPS

Ridgeland, MS (April 23, 2009) - The City of Ridgeland was named by *BusinessWeek.com* as the Best Small City for Startups in Mississippi.

“It is our goal to be a business friendly city. The stronger the business climate, the more resources we have to offer all our citizens, which makes the quality of life better for all,” said Gene F. McGee, Mayor of the City of Ridgeland.

“The Pros of Planting Startups in Smaller Cities” was published online on March 27, 2009 by John Tozzi.

Tozzi writes about start-up businesses and their choice of where to locate in the article. “Many said factors such as affordability, availability of talent, existence of a thriving business community, and quality of life helped them choose where to open,” writes Tozzi.

BusinessWeek.com worked with ZoomProspector, a site selection online tool for businesses, to collect data on cities with populations between 20,000 and 200,000. They asked entrepreneurs in each city what affected their decision to locate there.

ZoomProspector took 11 factors into account: workers with at least a bachelor’s degree, white-collar workers, “young and educated” population, workers in “creative” professions, international talent, universities, patents, venture-capital funding, small businesses per capita, sole proprietors per capita, and startups per capita.

As stated by John Tozzi with *BusinessWeek.com*, “Quality of life and local incentives can lend a competitive advantage to entrepreneurs when they need it most.”

A company that *BusinessWeek.com* profiled was Bomgar, which started and is still located in Ridgeland. The company is national and also international. Bomgar is a software company that specializes in remote computer support technology for use by IT Support departments. With over 5,000 customers worldwide, Bomgar is recognized by leading industry analysts as a technology innovator and was recently asked by *BusinessWeek.com* what it was like to establish a technology company here in Ridgeland, MS.

To view the article and accompanying slide show of top cities across the United States, go to

http://www.businessweek.com/smallbiz/content/mar2009/sb20090327_385972.htm.

###