

*there's more here!*

# RIDGELAND

March 2022 - April 2022

# LIFE

*the*  
SPRING  
ISSUE

the city of RIDGELAND



# FROM THE MAYOR

Gene McGee



It's hard to believe that it is already March of 2022, and if you are like me, you are looking forward to spring's warmer temperatures and taking advantage of the many outdoor activities the City of Ridgeland has to offer. We are so fortunate to have some of the best parks in the state accommodating visitors and citizens of all ages and stages in life, from the youngest of athletes to the senior citizens to the physically challenged.

Worthy of recognition, our Recreation and Parks Department takes pride in keeping our parks pristine, while offering some of the best programs around. Our world-class fields at Wolcott and Freedom Ridge draw in athletes and families from all over, and our one-of-kind Parker Miracle Field is specifically designed to accommodate child and adult athletes with disabilities.

For those enjoying their golden years, I encourage you check out the Senior Adult Programs held at the Recreation Center at Old Trace Park. From fitness to art, you are sure to find something engaging to keep you active.

It is exciting to know that we live in a city that offers such diverse opportunities for recreation, while helping to improve the quality of life for all our citizens. From baseball, soccer, pickle ball, tennis, as well as the multi-use trails, Ridgeland offers the best.

Speaking of trails, we are aware of some concerns regarding the condition of the multi-use trails located on Natchez Trace property. We are maintaining contact with Natchez Trace officials, and we are told there is a plan in place to repair the trails in phases, dependent on the funds given to them by Congress. We will continue to do everything possible to encourage them to get the work done.

It doesn't seem possible, but very soon our high school seniors will be looking forward to graduation. This is an exciting time as they look onward to the next phase of their life. Congratulations to each graduating senior! I believe the best is yet to come for you as you move on to furthering your education or starting a career.

I hope each of you have a great spring and look forward to seeing you out and about taking full advantage of our many recreational opportunities.

*Gene F. McGee*

# RIDGELAND LIFE

March 2022 - April 2022

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# contents

## NEWSWORTHY

- 4 THE HISTORICAL SOCIETY OF RIDGELAND
- 6 MAYOR GENE MCGEE RECEIVES GOVERNMENTAL LEADERSHIP AWARD
- 8 HART CHOSEN TO LEAD RIDGELAND PUBLIC WORKS AND COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT
- 9 RIDGELAND, MS WINS NATIONAL AMERICA IN BLOOM AWARD
- 10 A CONVERSATION WITH NEELEY JONES
- 12 BUSINESS “BLOOMS” FOR RIDGELAND’S COTTON BLOSSOM
- 14 YARD OF THE MONTH
- 16 STURDIVANT FAMILY EXHIBIT ON DISPLAY AT CITY HALL
- 17 TOURISM EVENTS
- 18 NORTH PARK EVENTS

## RECRE8

- 19 RECREATION AND PARKS
- 20 SUPERSTAR SENIORS
- 22 SPECIAL EVENTS

## SCHOOLS IN RIDGELAND

- 24 ANN SMITH ELEMENTARY
- 25 OLD TOWN MIDDLE SCHOOL
- 26 RIDGELAND HIGH SCHOOL
- 28 HOLMES COMMUNITY COLLEGE

## RIDGELAND PUBLIC LIBRARY

- 29 “WALKIN” IN A WINTER WONDERLAND” OF FUN AT RIDGELAND PUBLIC LIBRARY
- 31 LIBRARY EVENTS
- GET THE MOST OUT OF YOUR LIBRARY CARD

## CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

- 32 RIDGELAND CHAMBER GOLF CLASSIC
- 33 JUNIOR DIPLOMAT LEADERSHIP PROGRAM

## WHO & WHERE

- 34 RIDGELAND DEPARTMENTS
- CITY MEETINGS
- CITY DIRECTORY
- 35 RIDGELAND ALDERMEN

THE HISTORICAL SOCIETY OF RIDGELAND

# Telling Ridgeland's Story

By Polly Hammett



**H**AVE YOU NOTICED THE SIGNS AROUND THE CITY PROCLAIMING RIDGELAND A TREE CITY? RIDGELAND FIRST RECEIVED THIS DESIGNATION IN 2009. BUT THIS GOAL TAKES LONGER THAN A FEW YEARS TO ATTAIN. FORTUNATELY FOR US, THE EARLY FOUNDERS OF THE VILLAGE OF RIDGELAND GAVE US A HUGE HEAD START ON THIS PROJECT.



When developers Nichols and Treackle first surveyed this area in the mid-1890s, they found fertile land for crops. They concentrated mostly on fruits that could be shipped to markets in the north, like strawberries, peaches, pears and pecans. Much of the land was planted in fruit orchards and strawberry fields. An existing railroad made the shipping process much easier. This is what drew people from Illinois, Indiana, Washington, and beyond to move to this area and eventually charter the Village of Ridgeland in 1899.

Of course, there was already an abundant tree canopy here. As you drive through Old Town or out Old Agency Road, you will see many large trees that have probably been standing for well over 150 years. These trees have witnessed the development and growth of our city, from an outbreak of Yellow Fever, a fire that destroyed most of the original village, the rebuilding as new families moved in, and the first electric light.

While the tree canopy on Old Agency Road is protected by a separate ordinance, Ridgeland adopted a tree ordinance in 2006 to protect, preserve, promote, establish and maintain an urban tree canopy. The ordinance promotes the planting of large trees, such as oak, pine, maple, magnolia, cypress, sweetgum, cedar and poplar to maintain this canopy. Of course this, in turn, makes Ridgeland a more beautiful and pleasant place to live, work, and play!

Although many streets are named for the peach and pear orchards, none of the original trees appear to remain.

However, some residents in Old Town report “wild” strawberry plants popping up in their yards. But evidence of the large pecan orchards remain today. There is a stand of some twenty or more pecan trees from the original orchards just south of the roundabout on Highland Colony. I have also noticed a stand of ten or more pecan trees on State Street in the Beasley Road vicinity. These trees are possibly 125 years old and are still bearing fruit!

Establishing a Tree Mitigation Fund that assesses payment for cutting down trees during clearing for roads and buildings has provided funds for replacing the tree canopy. Two matching grants from America in Bloom were received through the efforts of Keep Ridgeland Beautiful and city officials. With these funds, 310 trees were planted along Highland Colony Boulevard, and another 218 will be planted on Colony Park Boulevard. Trees planted in these areas include three varieties of oaks for canopy and Crape Myrtles for color and impact.

Our tree heritage is honored in the art installations in City Hall. The collage in the lobby depicts the orchards planted in the early years. Another art piece is of the Natchez Trace, where many varieties of trees enhance the parkway. The glass installation in the boardroom features trees and leaves that shimmer and mesmerize.

By protecting what was already here and promoting good practices, we will ensure that future generations enjoy a more beautiful and prosperous city.

It seems that Ridgeland was destined to be a “Tree City.” I guess you could say it’s just in our nature!

A close-up portrait of John Sidney North, a middle-aged man with short brown hair, looking directly at the camera with a slight smile. He is wearing a blue collared shirt. The background is a soft, out-of-focus grey.

A CONVERSATION WITH...

# John Sidney North

By Mary Beth McCullouch, Editor

**Q. TELL ME ABOUT YOURSELF.**

**A.** I'm from Yazoo City. As a kid, I enjoyed being outside, and I was involved in all types of sports. My dad was the Parks and Recreation Director there for 28 years, and I'd been going to the ball parks with him ever since I could walk, so I guess you could say I followed in his footsteps. I graduated from high school in 1991 from Manchester Academy, and I played college baseball at Holmes Community College. Afterwards, I attended Ole Miss for a year and then transferred to Belhaven to play baseball. I graduated from Belhaven in 1996. I currently live in Ridgeland with my wife Robin and son John Riley.

**Q. WHAT BROUGHT YOU TO THE CITY OF RIDGELAND?**

**A.** After I graduated from Belhaven in '96, I was hired by the City as the Program Coordinator in the Recreation and Parks Department. In 2000, I became the Athletic Coordinator, and I stayed in that position until 2019. In December of 2019, I became the Director of the Parks and Recreation Department.

**Q. WHAT ARE YOUR DUTIES AS THE RIDGELAND RECREATION AND PARKS DIRECTOR?**

**A.** I'm in charge of maintaining staff to take care of day-to-day operations of special events, senior adults, fields, parks, and other city property. I oversee approximately 20 employees.

**Q. WHAT UPCOMING SPORTS PROGRAMS DOES RIDGELAND RECREATION AND PARKS SPONSOR?**

**A.** Youth soccer has started, and that will run through the middle of April. Starting in mid-March, boys' baseball and girls' softball will commence and run through the first part of June.

**Q. DOES RIDGELAND HOST TOURNAMENTS?**

**A.** Yes. We have 22 weekends lined up throughout the spring and summer for tournaments. These tournaments bring in visitors from all over, which in turn brings in revenue to Ridgeland through our hotels, restaurants, and other businesses.

**Q. TELL ME ABOUT THE FACILITIES IN RIDGELAND.**

**A.** We have the Ridgeland Tennis Center, which also brings in a tremendous amount of revenue for the City through its tournaments. Last year, we added four pickleball courts, and we are now able to host pickleball tournaments. I look for us to add more pickleball courts to the tennis court in the future. We also own and maintain four parks with various amenities and playgrounds. At Freedom Ridge Park, we have four baseball/softball fields, batting cages, four soccer fields, three playgrounds, several pavilions, and a walking trail; Hite Wolcott Park has seven baseball/softball fields, batting cages, a playground and a nature trail; Friendship Park has a covered pavilion, two playgrounds, and a walking trail; and Midway Park has basketball courts and two picnic areas. In addition, we maintain the Ridgeland Wildflower Field in conjunction with Keep Ridgeland Beautiful.

**Q. RIDGELAND HAS A VERY ACTIVE SENIOR ADULT PROGRAM; CORRECT?**

**A.** Yes. A few months ago, Lynda Assink retired as our Senior Adult Coordinator. Her years of service to Ridgeland and the Senior Adult Program were invaluable. After Lynda's retirement, we hired Neeley Jones. We're really excited to have her. She's brought with her some new and creative ideas, and our seniors are really excited to have her. She's doing a great job.

**Q. WHAT KIND OF PROGRAMS ARE OFFERED FOR THE SENIOR ADULTS?**

**A.** Our newest program that Neeley

started is Birthday Bingo. It's held once a month, and everyone who has a birthday during that month is celebrated. We have sponsors who donate refreshments and prizes. It's turned into a big deal, and the seniors really enjoy it. We also offer martial arts, various types of dance and fitness classes, yoga, arts and crafts, Bible studies, bridge, and garden club. We even have a new monthly Ornish program for those suffering with heart disease.

**Q. HOW MANY PARTICIPANTS ARE IN THE SENIOR ADULT PROGRAMS?**

**A.** We average about 40 participants a day with all the different sessions we offer.

**Q. WHAT EVENTS ARE SPONSORED BY RIDGELAND'S RECREATION AND PARKS DEPARTMENT?**

**A.** Saturday, May 7th will be our Annual Natchez Trace Century Ride. Registration is now open for anyone who'd like to participate. It usually attracts over a thousand riders, and last year we had a few celebrities to join us.

On Saturday, June 11th, we'll have our 27th Annual Father/Child Fishing Tournament at Old Trace Park. We usually have anywhere from 60 – 80 participants.

Our next big special event will be the Celebrate America Balloon Glow at Northpark on Friday, July 1st. That's a free event and open to the public. There will be hot air balloons, entertainment, food, and fireworks.

On October 8th, we'll host our newest event, Cycle Out Kids' Cancer. This will be our second year of sponsoring this event. It's a fundraiser bike ride that raises

money for Children's of Mississippi Center for Cancer and Blood Disorders.

**Q. RIDGELAND RECREATION AND PARKS ALSO PARTNERS WITH SKYHAWKS; CORRECT?**

**A.** Yes. We partner with them and help facilitate summer camps and other programs for kids. There's information in this edition of the magazine for anyone interested in Skyhawks.

**Q. YOU ALSO SPONSOR A VERY SPECIAL PROGRAM CALLED MIRACLE LEAGUE. EXPLAIN WHAT THAT IS.**

**A.** Yes. We are home to the Central Mississippi Miracle League. What started out as the Challenger League over 25 years ago, a league for special needs kids, is now called the Miracle League. A few years ago, we had a family come to us wanting to raise money to help start this league and renovate a field at Hite Wolcott that would accommodate special needs kids and adults to play baseball. We have between 60 – 80 kids and adults participating in Miracle League.

**Q. TELL ME ABOUT THE HOOPS PROGRAM.**

**A.** Hoops is a basketball program we sponsor for special needs kids that is going on right now. It is run by our Athletic Director Brent Watson.

**Q. HOW WOULD ONE FIND OUT MORE ABOUT THE PROGRAMS AND EVENTS THAT RIDGELAND RECREATION AND PARKS SPONSORS?**

**A.** You can always call us at 601-853-2011. You can also follow us on Facebook @ridgelandrecreationandparks, or you can visit our website at RidgelandSportsandEvents.com.



MM SHAPLEY'S –

# Celebrating 36 Years in Ridgeland

By Mary Beth McCullough, Editor

The City of Ridgeland is renowned for its legion of first-class restaurants – from steak houses, to Italian, to Asian, to seafood – locals and visitors alike enjoy our diverse selection of savory dining options. Naturally, the words “first-class” and “steak house” cannot be mentioned without giving MM Shapley’s in Ridgeland its due recognition.

When Mary and Mark Shapley first opened their restaurant in 1985, there weren’t many restaurants or steak houses in Ridgeland. Half Italian, half Lebanese, and a native of Greenville exposed to the great prodigy

of Doe’s Eat Place, instinctively, Mark’s first menu consisted of Italian fare and porterhouse steaks. He soon realized the customers’ gravitation towards their steaks and expanded their menu to include different cuts of meat like filets and New York strips.

Throughout the years, there’s never been any adjustments to their cooking procedures or recipes. “The steaks today are cooked the same as they were 36 years ago,” Mark said.

The original Shapley’s was stationed in the old Burgers and Blues restaurant. Arising to be one of Ridgeland’s most premier restaurants



MARY AND MARK IN  
1985 AT SHAPLEY'S  
FIRST LOCATION.



and eventually outgrowing a second location, the couple made the decision in 1997 to build the perfect restaurant to suit their needs. Almost 25 years later, the restaurant is still located on Centre Street. With its wooden floors and traditional furnishings, the design and layout of the restaurant presents a welcoming feeling of dining at home.

Amidst the expansion and construction of the new restaurant, Mark and Mary's family also grew. In 1998, they were presented with an opportunity to sell the restaurant, and after 13 years in the business, Mark made a "life decision" to reprioritize and spend more time at home to help Mary raise their two girls, Amy and Elizabeth. Mark lit up when he said, "To be able to spend the next 20 years raising my daughters was a tremendous blessing."



PICTURED L TO R: MARK AND MARY SHAPLEY, OWNERS; JEFFREY SHAPLEY, GENERAL MANAGER

Over the years after selling the restaurant, Mark owned a company that built cell towers, and he dabbled a little in commercial and residential developments. However, a void later surfaced in Mark. "Frankly, the last few years prior to getting back into this, we weren't doing much of anything, and I was getting really bored. I missed entertaining and interacting with the customers!" Mark exclaimed.

Twenty years after the Shapley family sold the restaurant, an opportunity presented itself when the

second owners wanted to sell. Mark said, "I just hate the idea of Shapley's going away." Their daughters now grown and on their own, Mark and Mary made the decision to buy back the restaurant.

In a Facebook post from 2018, Mark stated, "Mary and I are going back into our restaurant business in our original location on Centre Street. We are very excited about this opportunity and plan to continue the same great menu and service that you came to know from us years ago."



That same year, with a little rebranding, MM Shapley's "reopened" its doors to its original owners and their customers.

Today, MM Shapley's is a family business with nephew Jeffrey Shapley on the payroll as their general manager. Mark operates the back of the house, Mary and Jeffrey take care of the social aspects in the front, and Mark and Mary's daughters maintain their website and social media platforms. Mary explained, "This is bigger than just a 'mom and pop' setup. It takes a lot of help from others to keep it running."

Humbly acknowledging their 36-plus-years presence, they welcome the competition of other restaurants. Mark explained his style of keeping the restaurant "attractive" over the years. "The restaurant business is a tough business, particularly the last couple of years with all the challenges going on. The attention to detail and caring about your customers and giving them an enjoyable experience when they come in makes the difference. It's also very important that we maintain a presence with the customers and have a strong team. We currently have 44 employees, and I believe our team is better today than it ever has been." Mary added, "We've always said competition is good. It keeps us on our toes and forces us to pay attention to detail and do the best we can do."

Located at 868 Centre Street in Ridgeland, MM Shapley's is open Tuesday – Thursday from 5:00 p.m. – 8:30 p.m. and Friday – Saturday from 5:00 p.m. – 9:00 p.m. For more information and to view their menu, visit their website at [mmshapleys.com](http://mmshapleys.com).

We all know that littering is bad for several reasons. It wreaks havoc on the environment; it provides a breeding ground for bacteria, insects, rodents, and other pests; and it's physically harmful to pets and other animals. What you may not realize is the effect litter has on you and your wallet.

Since his appointment a few months ago, Ridgeland Public Works Director Alan Hart has been well-educated on the cost of litter management and the planning and preparation it takes to send out a crew to pick it up. "It's frustrating that tax-payer dollars are being spent to combat something that is completely preventable," Hart said.

The repercussions of littering creates a vicious cycle. It takes a tremendous amount of time and preparation to get a crew together. If inmates are used,

they have to be scheduled weeks in advance through law enforcement agencies. Police officers providing the safety barrier between the passing cars and the pickup team have to be scheduled during their off-times and paid over time.

In times when inmates are unavailable or can't be scheduled, city maintenance workers are used, creating the burden of extra costs. The last crew of city maintenance workers picked up over 300 bags of litter and incurred labor costs of \$5700.

Over the past several months, the Ridgeland Police Department has partnered with public works to address the unsightliness of litter along Ridgeland's stretch of I-220 and I-55. These efforts have been strictly clean-up projects and require an assigned officer working in overtime capacity.

# The High Cost

By Mary Beth McCullough, Editor



INMATES ALONG I-55 FILL THEIR TRASH BAGS WITH ACCUMULATED LITTER.



THIRTY-EIGHT PERCENT OF ROADSIDE LITTER COMES FROM WHAT ESCAPES A PICKUP TRUCK, SUCH AS THIS BUCKET ON THE SHOULDER OF I-55.

Ridgeland isn't the only city where litter has left its mess. According to their website, the Mississippi Department of Transportation spends millions of dollars every year picking up roadside litter throughout the state. It also states that 62 percent of all Mississippi litter is deliberate, and males appear to be responsible for 72 percent of all deliberate littering and 89 percent of all accidental littering. However, a staggering 38 percent of all littering by motorists comes from what escapes the back of a pickup truck.

"A surprising amount of litter comes from the bed

of trucks. A good, simple habit to do while filling up your tank at the gas station would be to empty your trash from the truck bed. It would prevent a lot of the unnecessary trash being blown out onto our roadways," Hart said.

For 30-plus years, Ridgeland Mayor Gene McGee's ultimate goal has been to provide a good quality of life for all his citizens. "As Mayor, it's my responsibility to make sure citizens have access to clean water, fresh air, and outdoor recreation. We are blessed to have all this in Ridgeland, but it breaks my heart to see how careless



PUBLIC WORKS DIRECTOR ALAN HART EVALUATES THE LITTER PROBLEM ALONG I-55 IN RIDGELAND.

# of Litter

and selfish some citizens are by throwing trash on what we've worked so hard to provide them. The best quality of life includes a city with a clean environment that's free of litter," McGee said.

Costs and quality of life are not the only factors affected by the grim aftermath of littering. Studies conducted by Keep America Beautiful have shown 36 percent of business developers are visually impacted by areas with exceptional amounts of litter, giving enough reason for them to choose to start their endeavors elsewhere.

Additionally, Keep America Beautiful reports that property values are tremendously affected by litter. Fifty-five percent of surveyed realtors said litter can reduce property values by as much as nine percent. The nosedive continues with 60 percent of property appraisers reducing a home's value if nearby property is littered.

Law enforcement in Ridgeland is keeping a watchful eye and cracking down on the violators. "As part of our overall mission, Ridgeland police officers are constantly looking for violations of the litter law. These violations can be as simple as tossing a cup from a fast food

restaurant, thumping a cigarette out the window, or allowing trash to blow from a large container owned by a commercial solid waste company," Ridgeland Police Chief John Neal explained.

So what are the repercussions for violators? According to Chief Neal, "Based on the type of litter violation, offenders can expect a misdemeanor fine ranging from \$50 to \$1000 for a first violation." He added, "Although police officers are not able to observe every violation, we encourage our residents and visitors to be another set of eyes in our enforcement efforts. If you witness a deliberate violation of the state litter laws, we encourage you to obtain a license plate number and contact the Ridgeland Police Department."

The road ahead for Ridgeland's litter dilemma isn't an easy one, but with the backing of Ridgeland's leadership, Hart is determined to tackle it. "I appreciate the support the Mayor and Board have given me in pushing this program. With their encouragement, I'm reassured we will find a solution to the eyesore of litter."



SERGEANT SARA PERKINS WAS RECOGNIZED AS FIRST RESPONDER OF THE YEAR AT A MEETING OF THE MAYOR AND BOARD OF ALDERMEN.

# Sergeant Sara Perkins Recognized as *First Responder of the Year*

By Mary Beth McCullouch, Editor

Recently, Ridgeland Police Department's Sergeant Sara Perkins was recognized at a meeting of the Mayor and Board of Aldermen for being awarded the First Responder of the Year from the First Responders of MS.



THE FIRST RESPONDERS OF MISSISSIPPI SELECTED SERGEANT SARA PERKINS AS THE FIRST RESPONDER OF THE YEAR FOR 2021 BASED ON A RECOMMENDATION FROM A MEMBER OF HER SHIFT.

Sergeant Perkins has been employed with the Ridgeland PD for eight-and-a-half years and currently serves in the patrol division as a patrol supervisor and received the award recommendation from a member of her shift.

“The Board and I couldn’t be prouder of Sara. She is a tremendous asset to the City and an invaluable leader to the police force. The standing ovation she received after the presentation was well-deserved,” said Gene McGee, Mayor of Ridgeland.

Several key examples for the recommendation

include: Saving a shooting victim's life; investigating a homicide scene and thoroughly communicating with witnesses, contributing to the arrest of the suspect within four hours of the crime being committed; and extracting crash victims trapped in damaged cars prior to the arrival of EMS and Fire personnel.

As a role model for new officers in her profession, she frequently spends time mentoring and guiding young officers down the correct path and works during her off time in communications to provide relief as newly hired dispatchers are receiving their training. She is often heard on the radio responding to calls for beat officers who may have a large call log for the day to provide relief, allowing them to catch up on their assignments.

“These are just a few examples of the leadership qualities Sergeant Perkins possesses. Her contributions to the Ridgeland Police Department, the City of Ridgeland and its residents cannot be measured, but the effects of her involvement in the City's safety and the department are certainly felt and noticed,” said John Neal, Ridgeland Chief of Police.

Recently, Sergeant Perkins studied, prepared, and performed at the highest level during a promotional process, resulting in her being promoted as the first female Sergeant in the history of the Ridgeland Police Department.

# recre8

## Natchez Trace Century Ride

Get your Ride On!! The Ridgeland Century Ride will take place on Saturday, May 7. Come out and enjoy this great bike ride! This recreational bike ride features a scenic ride for participants of all levels. Perfect for the beginner and the more experienced, this ride offers distances at 8 miles, 25 miles, 50 miles, 62 miles and 100 miles. Participants may register at [www.ridgelandsportsandevents.com](http://www.ridgelandsportsandevents.com). For more information, please visit our website at <https://runsignup.com/Race/MS/Ridgeland/NatchezTraceCenturyRide>.

Program Price: \$45

Registration: Now - April 6, 2022

Late Registration: April 7 - May 5, 2022

Late Registration Fee: \$55

Onsite Registration Fee: \$65 onsite Friday (No registration day of event)

Event Date: May 7, 2022

Start Time: 7:00 a.m.

Day of Week: Saturday

Location: Ridgeland Recreational Center

## Dog Obedience

The Jackson Obedience Training Club (JOTC) is offering puppy, beginner and advanced dog obedience classes. The six-week class will teach obedience commands of heel, sit, down, stay, come, and few other commands that you will use in everyday life with your pet. The JOTC is a non-profit organization that was established in 1969 and is licensed by the American Kennel Club.

Two sessions will be offered in the spring. Registration opens February 1, 2022, and classes will begin on Tuesday, March 22, 2022. Puppies must be 3-6 months old. Dogs for the beginner class must be at least 6 months of age or older, and in order to be in the advanced class, your dog must have completed the beginner class. Proof of vaccination by a licensed vet is required.

For more information, please go to [www.jotc.org](http://www.jotc.org).

Program Price: \$95

Program Area: Adult

Registration: February 1- March 15

Start Date: March 22, 2022

Start Time: 7:00 p.m.

Day of Week: Tuesday

Location: Ridgeland Recreational Center

## Easter Egg Hunt

HERE COMES PETER COTTONTAIL! Join us on Thursday, April 7, at Freedom Ridge Park as we welcome the Easter Bunny for an afternoon of fun. We will have age specific hunts for the children. One parent per child will be allowed in the hunting area with the youngest age group. No parents will be allowed to hunt with the older age groups. **Ages 10 and under only.**

Program Price: No Charge

Event Date: April 7, 2022

Start Time: 5:45 p.m. - 7:00 p.m.

Day of Week: Thursday

Location: Freedom Ridge Park

### Ages Hunt Times

2 and under 6:10 p.m.

3-4 year olds 6:20 p.m.

5-6 years old 6:30 p.m.

7-10 years old 6:40 p.m.

## Ride Of Silence

The Ride of Silence will be held at Northpark in Ridgeland on Wednesday, May 18. It is open to any level of cyclist that can ride for 7.5 miles at a slow pace. Cyclists remain silent in honor of those who have been injured or lost their life to a vehicle collision.

Price: No Charge  
 Location: Northpark  
 Date: Wednesday, May 18  
 Time: 6:50 p.m. - Welcome  
 7:00 p.m. - Ride begins

## Movie Night At City Hall

Come enjoy a free outdoor movie under the stars at Ridgeland City Hall. Bring your family and friends and a blanket or comfortable chair to sit in. Picnic dinners and snacks are welcome. Movie will begin at dusk.

Program Price: Free  
 Event Date: May 12  
 Movie: TBD  
 Start Time: Dusk  
 Day Week: Thursday  
 Location: Ridgeland City Hall

*Ridgeland Recreation and Parks is Proud to Present:*

## Skyhawks Sports Academy Camps And Classes

Owner/Operator: Paul Van Hooydonk (Coach Van)  
 Phone: (601) 790-0868  
 Website: [www.skyhawks.com](http://www.skyhawks.com)

Skyhawks provides a wide variety of fun, safe and positive programs that emphasize critical lessons in sports and life, such as teamwork, respect and sportsmanship. Our programs are designed to give each child a positive introduction into sports while fostering a lifelong love for an active, healthy lifestyle. Our patient and knowledgeable staff use a variety of skill-building games and activities to give each athlete a complete understanding and overview of the sport. Since 1979 Skyhawks has taught over one million boys and girls life lessons through sports. Please view our website at [www.skyhawks.com](http://www.skyhawks.com) for further information.

## SKYHAWKS SPRING CLASS SCHEDULE

### Flag Football Fueled By USA Football

Boys and Girls ages 6 to 9

Event Dates: Thursdays, March 24 through May 12  
 Event Times: 5:30 p.m. to 6:30 p.m.  
 Event Location: Freedom Ridge Park  
 Registration: Open now at [www.skyhawks.com](http://www.skyhawks.com)  
 Program Price: \$120

For more information, contact Coach Van at 601-790-0868

### Soccertots

Boys and Girls ages 4 and 5

Event Dates: Tuesdays, March 22 through May 10  
 Event Times: 2:30 p.m. to 3:15 p.m.  
 Event Location: Freedom Ridge Park  
 Registration date: Open now at [www.supertotsports.com](http://www.supertotsports.com)  
 Program Price: \$110

For more information, contact Coach Van at 601-790-0868

## SKYHAWKS SUMMER CAMPS SCHEDULE

### Mini-Hawk (soccer, basketball, flag football)

Boys and Girls ages 4 to 7

Event Dates: June 6 - 10  
Event Times: 9 a.m. - 12 p.m.  
Event Location: Freedom Ridge Park  
Registration: Open now at [www.skyhawks.com](http://www.skyhawks.com)  
Program Price: \$160

For more information, contact  
Coach Van at 601-790-0868

### Flag Football Fueled By USA Football

Boys and Girls ages 6 to 9  
Boys and Girls ages 9 to 12

Event Dates: June 27 - July 1  
Event Times: 9 a.m. - 12 p.m.  
Event Location: Freedom Ridge Park  
Registration: Open now at [www.skyhawks.com](http://www.skyhawks.com)  
Program Price: \$160

For more information, contact  
Coach Van at 601-790-0868

### Sand Volleyball

Boys and Girls ages 6 to 9  
Boys and Girls ages 9 to 12

Event Dates: July 11 - 15  
Event Times: 9 a.m. - 12 p.m.  
Event Location: Hite Wolcott Park  
Registration: Open now at [www.skyhawks.com](http://www.skyhawks.com)  
Program Price: \$160

For more information, contact  
Coach Van at 601-790-0868

### Beginning Golf (Shortgolf<sup>®</sup>)

Boys and Girls ages 5 to 9

Event Dates: June 20 - June 24  
Event Times: 9 a.m. - 12 p.m.  
Event Location: Freedom Ridge Park  
Registration: Open now at [www.skyhawks.com](http://www.skyhawks.com)  
Program Price: \$160

For more information, contact  
Coach Van at 601-790-0868

### Mini-Hawk (soccer, basketball, flag football)

Boys and Girls ages 4 to 7

Event Dates: July 25 - 29  
Event Location: Freedom Ridge Park  
Registration date: Open now at [www.skyhawks.com](http://www.skyhawks.com)  
Program Price: \$160

For more information, contact  
Coach Van at 601-790-0868

# superstar seniors

## WEEKLY PROGRAMS

### Exercise

\$15/month

Monday, Wednesday, Friday  
9 AM - 10 AM, 10 AM - 11 AM  
Instructors: Lisa Newman & Rita Latham  
Certified instructors lead participants through a series of cardiovascular and strength training exercises specifically designed to improve flexibility and health in senior adults.

### Line Dance

\$10/class or \$40/month

Mondays at 6 PM  
Instructor: Darlene Epple  
Learn a wide variety of line dances while exercising in a fun way, no partner needed.

### Martial Arts for Seniors

\$10/month

Tuesdays and Thursdays 10 AM - 11 AM  
Instructor: Andy Dillon  
Learn age and physically appropriate traditional martial arts and practical self-defense techniques.

### Restoration & Relaxation Gentle Yoga

\$5/class or \$30 for 6 (30 minute) classes

Mondays and Fridays 11 AM - 11:30 AM  
Instructor: Lisa Newman  
This class trains breathing and focuses your mind.

### Yoga for Flexibility, Fitness & Fun

\$5/class or \$30 for 6 (30 minute) classes  
Mondays and Fridays 11:30 AM - 12 PM  
Instructor: Lisa Newman  
Standing poses for strength and balance.

### Senior Fit

\$15/month

Mondays and Wednesdays 12:30 PM - 1:15 PM  
Instructor: Sally Holly  
Improve balance, flexibility, and strength through stretching and light weights for those recovering from recent illness, surgery, or neurological diseases.

### The Complete Mix

\$15/month

Mondays and Wednesdays 1:30 PM - 2:15 PM  
Instructor: Sally Holly  
Intermediate circuit type exercise combining low impact cardio, balancing, stretching and strengthening exercises.

### Tap Dancing

\$5/class

Wednesdays 2:30 PM - 3:15 PM  
Instructor: Monica Russell  
Beginning to intermediate tap dance instruction. This group performs at Ridgeland events and nursing homes.

### Men's Bible Study

FREE

Tuesdays 9 AM - 10 AM  
Men are welcome to join the group in person and everyone is invited to watch the recording on Facebook @ RidgelandMensBible.

### Men's Agape Coffee Group

FREE

Wednesdays 9:30 AM - 11:30 AM  
A group of men who meet together for coffee, friendship and good conversation.

### Artmaker Allies

FREE

Tuesdays 1 PM - 3 PM  
All mediums and artistic levels are welcome to join for friendship and encouragement. Come when you can, leave when you must. Bring your own supplies.

## MONTHLY PROGRAMS

### Ridgeland Garden Club

\$20/year

1st Tuesday of the month 11:30 AM - 1:00 PM  
A monthly meeting for those who love nature and gardening. Fun and educational programs served with a nice lunch.

### Bridge

\$1

3rd Thursday of the month 1 PM - 3 PM  
A team trick taking game played with a standard 52 playing card deck.

### Ornish Group

FREE

4th Tuesday of each month 11:30  
Participants all have a common goal of reversing their heart disease and improving their wellbeing.

### Birthday Bingo

FREE

4th Thursday of the month 2 PM - 4 PM  
Everyone is invited to play bingo, win prizes and eat cake in celebrating all of the birthdays each month. Must sign up in advance, space is limited.

Contact

Neeley Jones  
Senior Adult Coordinator  
(601) 856-6876  
neeley.jones@ridgelandms.org  
Facebook: facebook.com/



# special events

## The Gardener's Gym Workout

Program with Certified Instructor Lisa Newman

\$10/class or \$40/month

Wednesdays, March 9th-30th, 2:30-3:30 pm

Will focus on the importance of safety when working in the yard, show safe body mechanics while gardening, utilize garden tools properly, and better balance when outdoors.

## Ila's Drawing Workshop

\$75 for the 4 week workshop – supplies are not included

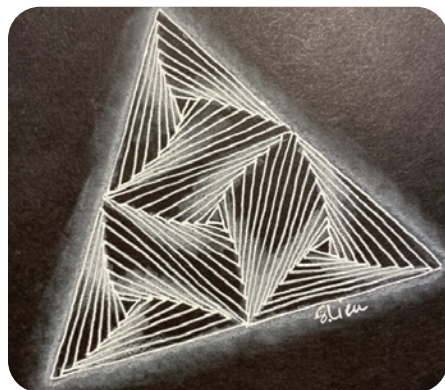
Thursdays, April 7 – 28th, 10 am – 12 noon

Learning to draw is not only the foundation of the visual arts, but the first step towards self-discovery. This class is for those who know how to paint, but would like to learn more skills in drawing. The class will help you to improve your "seeing skills." We will reinforce the Principals of Drawing and explore the Principals of Design.

## Zentangle Art Class (Black Tile)

\$30 – supplies are included  
Thursday, March 10, 1-3 pm

In this class we will learn the fun technique of using white pens on black tiles. Students will learn how to work with gel pens, shade with white charcoal and play with layering techniques. Black tiles are dramatic and we will learn some new tangles that really "pop" when using this medium. Students will create two pieces of art in class and have additional materials to use at home.



## Zentangle Art Class (Renaissance)

\$30 – supplies are included  
Thursday, May 12, 1-3 pm

Let's journey back in time and explore the works of Leonardo da Vinci and Michelangelo. Then we will use similar techniques found in these masters' drawings with tan Renaissance Zentangle tiles, black and brown pens and more to create our own beautiful art. Please bring your black Zentangle pens and graphite pencils to class.

## EXERFIT

with Certified Instructor Lisa Newman  
\$10/class or \$40/month  
Wednesdays, April 6th-27th, 2:30-3:30 pm

Learn to walk better with fitness poles. Great for posture and body alignment while learning coordination with body mechanics.

## Memory in Motion

with Certified Instructor Lisa Newman  
\$10/class or \$40/month  
Wednesdays, May 4th-25th, 2:30-3:30 pm

Great for brain health and lifestyle exercises to encourage posture, strength and memory.

To stay up-to-date on the latest from Ridgeland's Senior Adult Programs, sign up for our monthly e-newsletter by emailing [neeley.jones@ridgelandms.org](mailto:neeley.jones@ridgelandms.org)!



## senior adult programs

### MISSION STATEMENT:

THE MISSION OF RIDGELAND SENIOR ADULT PROGRAMS IS TO PROVIDE A SAFE, COMFORTABLE AND WELCOMING ENVIRONMENT WHERE ADULTS OVER 50 CAN COME TO PARTICIPATE IN ACTIVITIES TO ENHANCE THEIR PHYSICAL, MENTAL AND EMOTIONAL WELL-BEING.

## THREE EVENTS. ONE EPIC WEEKEND.

Art, Wine & Wheels, Ridgeland's largest festival weekend, returns May 6-8, 2022. There's something for everyone during this fun-filled weekend of events.

### The Art – Ridgeland Fine Arts Festival

Friday, May 6 (evening) - Sunday, May 8  
Some of America's most talented artists converge at the Renaissance at Colony Park for this annual juried art festival.

Artisans from the Craftsmen's Guild of Mississippi will be on hand demonstrating their various crafts and at the Children's Creative Craft Corner to help your budding artist create their own "make and take" piece of art.

Food trucks will also be at the festival offering some good eats for everyone. Or if you'd rather dine out, Ridgeland is home to many top tier restaurants as well.

Local boutiques and brand name merchants will also have ongoing weekend specials during the festival – there is no shortage of shopping!

### The Wine – Santé South Wine Festival Saturday, May 7; Santé South Sampling Palates Saturday, May 7 - Sunday, May 8

Now in its 17th year, Santé South is Mississippi's largest wine festival. The ticketed event offers wine enthusiasts the opportunity to speak with vintners from around the world while sampling dozens of their creations. Paired with food from the state's top restaurants, Santé South is a culinary showcase for a great cause.

The event will be held Saturday, May 7, 2022 at 7:30 p.m. along with the Ridgeland Fine Arts Festival at Renaissance at Colony Park. Santé South Sampling Palates will also be at the Ridgeland Fine Arts Festival.

### The Wheels – Natchez Trace Century Ride Saturday, May 7

The Natchez Trace Century Ride has become one of the largest cycling events in Mississippi. With choice of distances from 8, 25, 50, 62, and 100 miles with mild to moderate elevation, it is for riders of all levels. The Natchez Trace Century Ride will take place on Saturday, May 7 at 7 a.m., and will start at the Ridgeland Recreational Center at Old Trace Park.

Book a hotel room now for this exquisite weekend in Ridgeland.



may 6-8, 2022

RIDGELAND, MISSISSIPPI



[artwineandwheels.com](http://artwineandwheels.com)



Rogers, Ainsworth & Williams, PLLC



# events

MARCH (TBD)

## Jackson Irish Dancers

Contact the Ridgeland Library for performance date and time  
*Ridgeland Library*

MARCH 22

## Dog Obedience Class

Register at [www.jotc.org](http://www.jotc.org)  
(Registration ends March 15)  
*Ridgeland Recreation Center*  
7:00 p.m.

APRIL 6

## World Walking Day

Hosted by the Ridgeland Library  
*Freedom Ridge Park*  
10:00 a.m. – 11:30 p.m.

MARCH 8

## Making HERstory

A day of celebrating women's rights  
*Ridgeland Library*

MARCH 30

## Ridgeland Chamber of Commerce Annual Awards Banquet

Featuring Luckenbach, Willie Nelson Tribute Band  
*Country Club of Jackson*  
6:30 p.m. – 9:30 p.m.

APRIL 7

## Ridgeland Easter Egg Hunt

Ages 10 and under  
*Freedom Ridge Park*  
5:45 p.m. – 7:00 p.m.

MARCH 17

## Ridgeland Chamber Business after Hours

*Renasant Bank – The Township*  
5:00 p.m. – 7:00 p.m.

APRIL 3-9

## National Library Week

Week filled with books, programs, and giveaways!  
*Ridgeland Library*

APRIL 8-10

## Collegiate Bass Fishing Tournament

*The Rez*

MARCH 22

## Get Crafty

Celebrate all things Celtic by learning to make a traditional St. Brigid's cross  
*Ridgeland Library*  
4:30 p.m. – 5:30 p.m.

APRIL 4

## Maya Angelou Day

Celebrate Maya Angelo's birthday!  
*Ridgeland Library*

APRIL 9

## Township Jazz Festival

*Township at Colony Park*

APRIL

9

## Leap 4 the Lily Pad

*Methodist Rehab Center Green Space*

APRIL

21

Ridgeland Chamber  
Business after HoursAC by Marriott Jackson/Ridgeland  
5:00 p.m. – 7:00 p.m.

APRIL

28-30

## Bassmaster Open Series

*The Rez*

MAY

Asian American and Pacific  
Islander Heritage MonthCelebrate AAPI authors,  
illustrators, artists, and patrons  
Entire month of May  
*Ridgeland Library*

MAY

1-7

National Travel and  
Tourism Week

MAY

4

## Star Wars Day

“May the 4th Be With You!”  
Enter to win a basket full of  
Star Wars-themed swag  
*Ridgeland Library*

MAY

6

## Pepsi Pops

*Old Trace Park*

MAY

6-8

Art, Wine & Wheels  
WeekendRidgeland Fine Arts Festival (May  
6-8 at *Renaissance*)  
Sante South Wine Festival (May 7  
at *Renaissance*)  
Natchez Trace Century Ride (May  
7 at *Old Trace Park*)

MAY

7

## Natchez Trace Century Ride

Register at  
[www.ridgelandsportsandevents.com](http://www.ridgelandsportsandevents.com)  
(Registration ends May 5)  
*Ridgeland Recreation Center*  
7:00 a.m.

MAY

9-15

Law Enforcement  
Appreciation Week

MAY

12

## Movie Night at City Hall

*Ridgeland City Hall*  
Begins at Dusk

MAY

18

## Ride of Silence

Ride honoring those injured or  
who lost their life from a vehicle  
collision while riding  
*Northpark*  
6:50 p.m.

MAY 21-22

Renaissance Marathon

JULY 19-22

Creative Craft Camp

Ages 5-8

*Bill Waller Craft Center*(Sponsored by the Craftsmen's  
Guild of MS)

9 a.m. – 12 p.m. each day

MAY 30

Memorial Day Ceremony

*Veterans Memory Park in Ridgeland*  
11 a.m.Special Guest: Stacey Pickering,  
Executive Director, Mississippi  
Veterans Affairs*Let us remember***AMERICA'S HEROES**

Memorial Day Ceremony  
Veterans Memory Park in Ridgeland  
100 West School Street

May 30, 2022

11 o'clock am

*Special Guest:**Stacey E. Pickering**Executive Director, Mississippi Veterans Affairs*

# Ann Smith Elementary

Grades K-2 • 306 S. Pear Orchard Road • 601-856-6621 • [www.madison-schools.com/ase](http://www.madison-schools.com/ase)

By Delilah Vance

Ann Smith Elementary students had an amazing time at their first Winter Carnival. The carnival was a fundraiser sponsored by the Positive Behavior Intervention Support Committee (PBIS). Hallways were decorated with fun holiday

themes for the students to enjoy! All classrooms prepared various winter games for families to play as they walked down each hall. Games included reindeer ring toss, pin the nose on Olaf, ice bowling, ice fishing, face painting and many more!



# Old Town Middle School

Grades 6-8 • 210 Sunnybrook Rd. • 601-898-8730 • [www.madison-schools.com/otm](http://www.madison-schools.com/otm)

*Photos submitted by Crystal Chase*



KATIE DAUNER, OTMS TEACHER OF THE YEAR

Old Town Middle School congratulates Katie Dauner, OTMS Teacher of the Year; ToShunda Washington, Parent of the Year; and Otis Flowers, Paraprofessional of the Year!



TOSHUNDA WASHINGTON, OTMS PARENT OF THE YEAR



OTIS FLOWERS, OTMS PARAPROFSSIONAL OF THE YEAR

# Ridgeland High School

Grades 9-12 • 586 Sunnybrook Road • 601.898.5023 • [www.madison-schools.com/rhs](http://www.madison-schools.com/rhs)

By Jan Richardson



INSTALLATION OF A NEW FIELD TURF AT RIDGELAND HIGH SCHOOL EXCITED SPORTS FANS AS WELL AS FOOTBALL, SOCCER AND TRACK AND FIELD ATHLETES WHO GET TO COMPETE IN THIS SUPERIOR FACILITY. BOLD TITAN GRAPHICS MAKE THE FIELD A FAVORITE LANDMARK FOR PILOTS AND PASSENGERS FLYING OVER RIDGELAND.

## TITAN SOCCER TEAMS MEET THEIR "GOALS"

Ridgeland High boys' and girls' soccer teams capped off stellar 2021-22 seasons: both teams were undefeated in district play and competed in regions.

## HOLMES COMMUNITY COLLEGE

# Freshman Friday

**JOIN US!** Freshman Friday is an event held at Holmes Community College campuses each spring semester. This day is designed to assist high school seniors with registration for summer and/or fall classes. Come meet other incoming Freshmen, and get some Holmes CC swag. We'd love to see you on campus!

**APRIL 22**  
GRENADA & RIDGELAND

**APRIL 29**  
GOODMAN

*Holmes*  
COMMUNITY COLLEGE

1 (800) Holmes-4 | [holmescc.edu](http://holmescc.edu)





# RIDGELAND TITANS



## BOYS SOCCER 2021-2022

FRONT ROW L-R: (MANAGER) EDWARD MAYA, BRANDON WELZIEN, JARED AGUILAR, CAYDEN POWELL, LUIS CANAS, NATHAN PATEL, TYLER POWE, LUIS RAMIREZ, ANGEL CHACON, GEORGENSON CARDONA, DILLON WATSON, JESUS DUARTE, SAI GUNDA, AHMED MOHKAR

BACK ROW L-R: COACH TREY BUTTS, JACKSON ANDREWS, CHRISTIAN DIAZ, JOSH BUTTS, DIEGO ORTIZ, JONAH HERRERA, JOSEPH LEMUS, CYSON BURK, CHRISTIAN CROSS, HOWARD MOOREHEAD, JORGE SALAMANCA, JOSH HERRERA, LUIS CORTEZ, AHMAD ALOMARY, COACH BRADY HODA



THE TITAN BOYS' SOCCER TEAM WAS UNDEFEATED IN DISTRICT 5-A REGION 2 PLAY THIS SEASON. THE TITANS BOYS' TEAM IS COACHED BY TREY BUTTS WITH ASSISTANT COACH BRADY HODA.

# RIDGELAND TITANS



## GIRLS SOCCER 2021-2022

FRONT ROW L-R: LAYLA SANCHEZ, LESLIE DUARTE, DAVANYE KIGHT, YAHILI GONZALEZ, SHIRLY RIVERA, KATHY RAMIREZ, REAGAN LUNSFORD, ARACELY VILLAFRANCA, MORGAN DUNSON, LAELA DAVIS, SOFIA GUNN, BRIANA ORDONEZ,

BACK ROW L-R: (COACH) TREY BUTTS, ASHLEY DUARTE, DALLANARA RENK, AMELIA MCKINLEY, KELLY HERRING, INGRID BARRANCO, JORDAN ALLEN, PRISCILA VENTURA, AALIYAH JONES, ALJAHNNIQUE CAIN, DESTINY GRIFFIN, ALYSSA BARNES, CISELLE SIERRA-BENNETT, VALCENCIA WATSON, KAMYIA FULTZ, (COACH) CARNEY LOMAS



THE LADY TITAN SQUAD ENDED THE SEASON UNDEFEATED IN DISTRICT PLAY. TREY BUTTS AND ASSISTANT COACH CARNEY LOMAS COACH THE TITAN GIRLS' SOCCER TEAM.

## SALUTE TO RIDGELAND HIGH CLASS OF 2022

Ridgeland High seniors are entering the final quarter of high school, wrapping up their third school year altered by the pandemic. Undeterred, students are committing to colleges and

universities around the country, earning scholastic and sports scholarships. One of the special events hosted by the PTO is the spring senior breakfast. Attendees welcomed guest speaker

Shelby Baldwin, co-founder of Buzzbassador and a member of the RHS Class of 2015 and MSU Class of 2019.



TITAN ALUMNA AND BUZZBASSADOR CO-FOUNDER SHELBY BALDWIN INSPIRED EVERYONE IN THE ROOM AT THE ANNUAL SPRING RIDGELAND HIGH SCHOOL SENIOR BREAKFAST. FROM LEFT: TYLER JACKSON, RHS SENIOR; SHELIA JACKSON; SHELBY BALDWIN; CALVIN WADDY, CO-FOUNDER OF BUZZBASSADOR; AVA RACHAL, RHS SENIOR; AND KENYA RACHAL.

# *Spring into Fun and Reading*



# at Your Library!

By Kristen Hillman, Ridgeland Library Branch Manager

Ahhh, spring! A time of renewal and rebirth, and what better way to renew yourself than with some awesome programs and fun giveaways at your library this spring! Did you know that March 8th is International Women's Day? Throughout the world, people gather on this day to celebrate the many women and other figures who have led the battle for gender equality. Your library is no different, that is why we are hosting "Making HERstory" (a play on "Making History"), a fun guessing game where you guess the female literary character, civil rights pioneer, or other important figure in the complex history that is women's rights. Join us all day March 8th to participate!

Of course you can't talk about March without thinking about shamrocks, St. Patrick, and Ireland! Join us in March for a host of Irish-themed events, including a performance from the Jackson Irish Dancers! The Irish Dancers have been seen performing yearly at CelticFest and are sure to bring some dancing fun to our library this spring. Please contact the library in March for an updated performance

date and time. Our monthly "Get Crafty" program, Tuesday, March 22nd from 4:30pm to 5:30pm also celebrates all things Celtic as we learn how to make a traditional St. Brigid's cross that you can use to decorate your home or as a gift to a friend or loved one.



April is one of the biggest months of the year at the library because April 3-9 is National Library Week! This is going to be a week filled with books, programs, and giveaways at your library. It all starts April 4th with a birthday celebration for a wonderful author and literary giant, Maya Angelou. Come hear poetry, stories, and even learn something new about this notable woman and author! April 6th will give us a chance to stretch our legs for World Walking Day, as we host a walking group at Freedom Ridge Park from 10:00am-11:30am. Join us there for poems, take and makes, and, of course, walking.

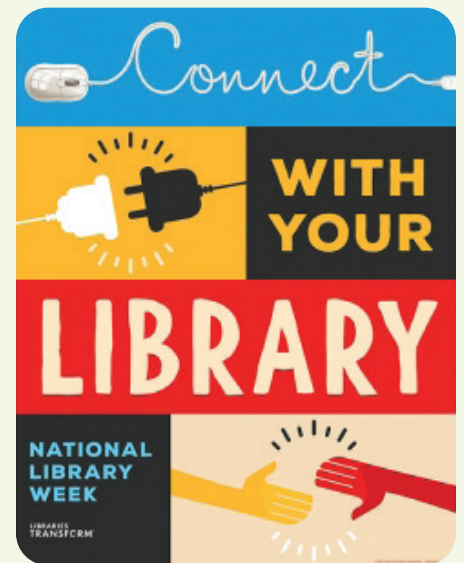
May is the last month before the library starts planning big programs and performances for our Summer Library Program, which starts in June. But, oh do we have some things planned for you this month! Are you a Star Wars fan? Well, "May

the 4th be with you!” or do I mean “May the FORCE be with you!”? Either way, use the force and join us on May 4th for Star Wars Day at the library! Check out a book, DVD, or graphic novel (comic books count as reading too, you know!) that is Star Wars themed and be entered in for a chance to win a basket full of Star Wars themed goodies and swag worthy of any Jedi master. May is also Asian American and Pacific Islander heritage month, and we have great respect for our many authors, illustrators, artists, and patrons who identify as Asian American or Pacific Islander. Join us at the library to check out the newest reads and movies from amazing AAPI authors and illustrators, and be sure to check out our display for ways to celebrate this month!

There sure is a lot going on at



our library this spring, so we hope you “hop to it,” like our friend the Easter Bunny, and check out all the great things your library has for you! For more information regarding programming at the Ridgeland Library, please contact Kristen Hillman, Branch Manager and Head of Adult Programming at 601-856-4536 or [khillman@mcls.ms](mailto:khillman@mcls.ms).



THE CITY OF RIDGELAND CHAMBER OF COMMERCE PRESENTS



*on the* ★★☆☆☆☆  
**ROAD AGAIN**

WE JUST CAN'T  
WAIT TO GET ON THE

*Road Again!*

WITH THE } *Luckenbach*  
WILLIE NELSON TRIBUTE BAND

THE CITY OF RIDGELAND CHAMBER OF COMMERCE  
2021 ANNUAL AWARDS BANQUET

**WEDNESDAY, MARCH 30, 2022**

**COUNTRY CLUB OF JACKSON**  
345 ST. ANDREWS DRIVE • JACKSON, MS

*with*  
RAPHAEL SEMMES & THE RIDGELAND JAMBOREE

6:30 P.M. Reception  
7:00 P.M. Dinner, Show and Awards

**ATTIRE: WESTERN *GLITZ* & GLAM!**

Individual tickets are available for \$75 per person.  
Call the Ridgeland Chamber to reserve your seat at  
one of the Chamber's most popular events.

**601-991-9996**

# Ridgeland Departments



Public Works  
**ALAN HART**  
*Director*  
alan.hart@ridgelandms.org



Fire Department  
**MATT BAILEY**  
*Fire Chief*  
matt.bailey@ridgelandms.org



Finance and Administration  
**PAULA TIERCE**  
*City Clerk/Human Resources Director*  
paula.tierce@ridgelandms.org



Police Department  
**JOHN NEAL**  
*Chief of Police*  
john.neal@ridgelandms.org



Recreation & Parks Department  
**JOHN SIDNEY NORTH**  
*Director*  
john.north@ridgelandms.org

## CITY OF RIDGELAND

City Hall, 100 W. School St. • Ridgeland, Mississippi 39157 • 601-856-7113 • www.ridgelandms.org

## Aldermen

- D.I. Smith**, Alderman-at-Large..... 601-940-2710
- Ken Heard**, Ward 1..... 601-201-7392
- Chuck Gautier**, Ward 2..... 601-856-1291
- Kevin Holder**, Ward 3..... 601-238-5361
- Brian Ramsey**, Ward 4..... 601-506-1979
- Bill Lee**, Ward 5..... 601-278-6256
- Wesley Hamlin**, Mayor Pro Tempore, Ward 6..... 601-454-0353

## City Directory

- ANIMAL CONTROL**  
animalcontrol@ridgelandms.org..... 601-856-2121
- ANONYMOUS TIP LINE**  
(criminal investigations division)..... 601-853-2006
- CITY HALL/MAYOR'S OFFICE**..... 601-856-7113
- COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT DEPARTMENT**  
(development, property maintenance, zoning, signs, permits)..... 601-856-3877
- COURT CLERK**  
(traffic violations, misdemeanors and fines)..... 601-853-2001
- EMERGENCY** (police and fire dispatch center)..... 9-1-1
- FINANCE AND ADMINISTRATION**  
(business licenses, elections, meeting minutes, budget, public records)..... 601-856-7113
- FIRE DEPARTMENT**  
(non-emergency calls, safety education programs)..... 601-856-7004
- POLICE DEPARTMENT**  
(non-emergency calls, public safety concerns)..... 601-856-2121
- PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT**  
(roads, garbage, recycling, water, storm water)..... 601-853-2027
- RECREATION AND PARKS**  
(special events, athletics and program registration, park information).... 601-853-2011
- UTILITY BILLING DEPARTMENT** (water, sewer, garbage, & recycling billing)  
utilitybilling@ridgelandms.org..... 601-856-3938

## City Meetings

### MAYOR AND BOARD OF ALDERMEN MEETING

1st & 3rd Tuesday - 6 p.m.  
Work session is held on Mondays prior to Board Meeting - 6 p.m.

### ARCHITECTURAL REVIEW BOARD

2nd & 4th Tuesday - 6 p.m.  
Bill Dicken (Chairman), Connie Suber (Secretary), David Dunbar  
Randy Lynn, Robert Moore, Tay Morgan, Lynette Praytor  
Leigh Ann Sullivan

### KEEP RIDGELAND BEAUTIFUL

First Monday - 4 p.m.  
Jan Richardson - Chairman  
Rachel Bradley, Ginger Cocke, Rachel Collier, Polly Hammett, Claire  
Jackson, Phyllis Parker, Lea Anne Stacy

### COMMUNITY AWARENESS COMMITTEE

Fourth Monday - 5:30 p.m.  
Shelia Jackson - Chairman  
Carla Palmer Allen, Shirley Gill, Vicki Heath,  
Diane Jackson, Shelia Jackson, Lazaire Martin, Adams Yerger,  
Dr. Phelton Cortez Moss, Walter Young, Jr.

### HISTORICAL COMMITTEE

Every other month - TBA  
Nancy Batson - Chairman  
Robby Carr, Donna Dye, Polly Hammett, Mike Porter, Pat Truesdale

### CONTRACTORS BOARD OF ADJUSTMENT AND APPEALS

Quarterly meetings - 4 p.m.  
Lantz Kuykendall - Chairman  
Terry Evans, David Pursell, Steve Rimmer, Clay Sutherland, Keith West

### ZONING BOARD

Thursdays, the week of Mayor and Board of Aldermen meeting - 6 p.m.  
Bernie Giessner - Chairman  
Michelle Caballero, Jim Collette, Walter Cox,  
Drew Malone, Larry Miller, Judy Rice

# Ridgeland Aldermen

To learn more about your elected representatives, go to [www.ridgelandms.org/electedofficials/](http://www.ridgelandms.org/electedofficials/).

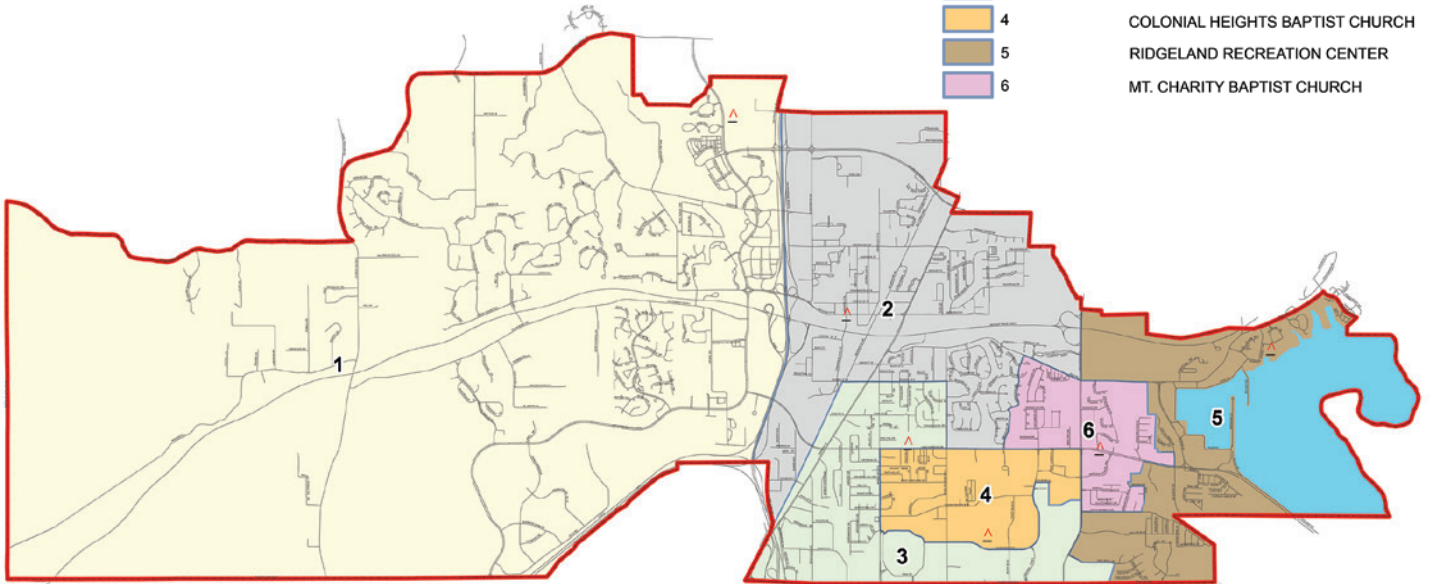
WARD NUMBER



POLLING LOCATION

- 1
- 2
- 3
- 4
- 5
- 6

- HIGHLAND COLONY BAPTIST CHURCH
- FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH
- TRACE RIDGE BAPTIST CHURCH
- COLONIAL HEIGHTS BAPTIST CHURCH
- RIDGELAND RECREATION CENTER
- MT. CHARITY BAPTIST CHURCH



**D.I. Smith**  
Alderman At-Large  
601-940-2710  
DI.Smith@RidgelandMS.org



**Ken Heard**  
Ward 1  
601-201-7392  
Ken.Heard@RidgelandMS.org



**Chuck Gautier**  
Ward 2  
601-506-5913  
Chuck.Gautier@RidgelandMS.org



**Kevin Holder**  
Ward 3  
601-238-5361  
Kevin.Holder@RidgelandMS.org



**Brian Ramsey**  
Ward 4  
601-506-1979  
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**Bill Lee**  
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# RIDGELAND



recreation & parks

## Yearly Ridgeland Events

### MAY

#### Natchez Trace Century Ride

- Scenic bike ride through Madison and Rankin Counties, ending on the Natchez Trace Parkway
- First Saturday of Art, Wine, & Wheels Weekend

### JULY

#### Celebrate America Balloon Glow

- An evening of music, hot air balloons, food vendors & fireworks
- Friday before July 4th

### OCT

#### Cycle Out Kids Cancer Bike Ride

- Children's of MS Center for Cancer & Blood Disorders Fundraiser
- Second Saturday of October

### DEC

#### Christmas in Ridgeland

- Christmas Tree Lighting - first Thursday in December
- Christmas at City Hall - first Friday in December
- Christmas Parade - First Saturday in December