

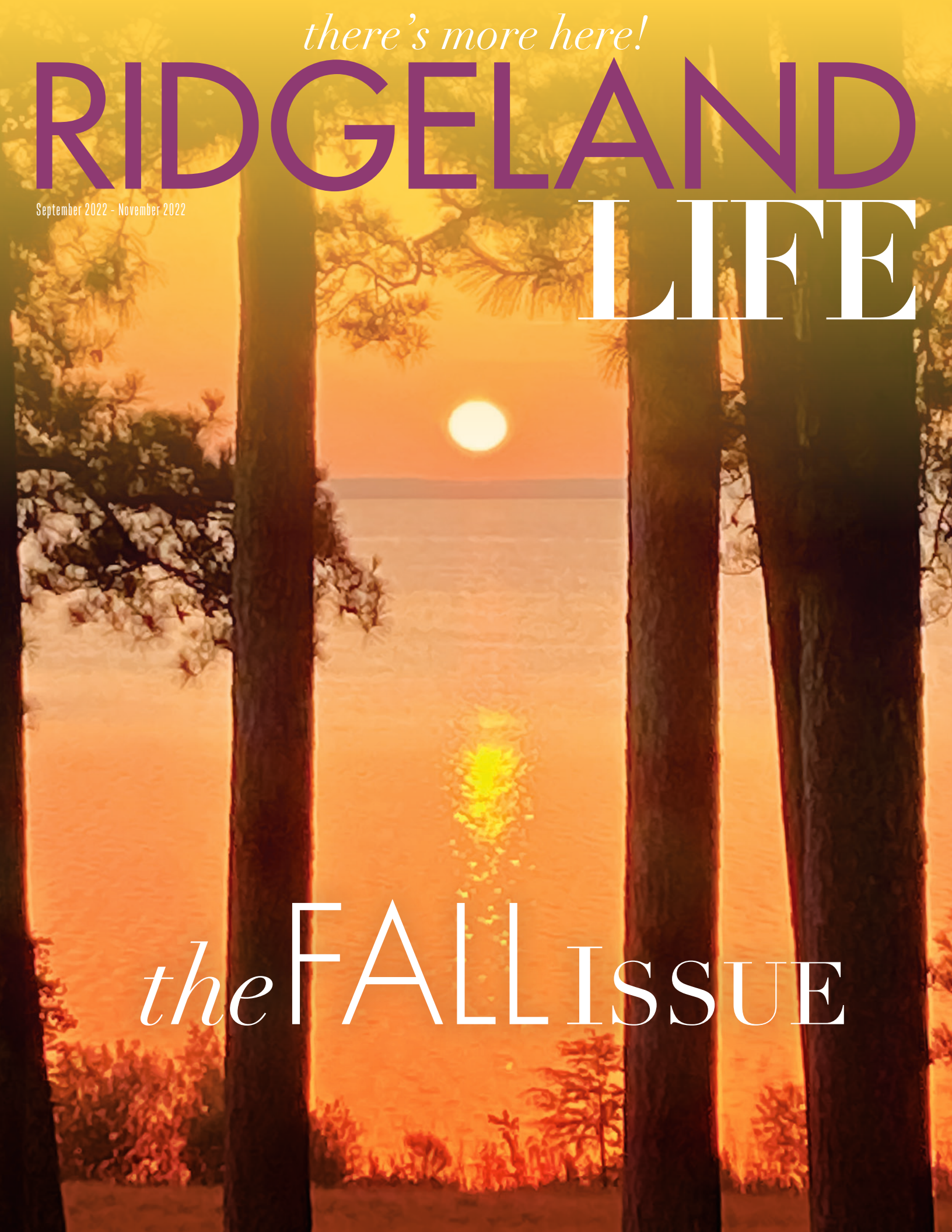
there's more here!

RIDGELAND

September 2022 - November 2022

LIFE

the FALL ISSUE



FROM THE MAYOR

Gene McGee



It is hard to believe we are starting all the fall activities once again. The summer has zoomed by, and students are headed back to school and college. Please keep all these families in your prayers, not only for a successful academic year, but for the safety for these students, as many will travel back and forth to Ridgeland when they have breaks from school.

It has been a great summer for the City of Ridgeland. Our economy continues to grow, and we are seeing a great deal of interest in new developments in our City that will allow us to continue the best quality of life and provide additional services that we can all enjoy without raising taxes.

This season is always very busy for our Recreation and Parks department. The programs they offer are the best in the State! I would like to congratulate Neeley Jones, our Senior Adult Coordinator, for bringing a fresh and exciting ideas to that program. She certainly had big shoes to fill in replacing Linda Assink, but she has confidently taken the reins of this program and continues to grow it and provide great services for our senior citizens.

As we look to the fall, I hope that each of you would support our local schools. There are many ways you can get involved through programs and activities to support our students. Also, please support the many activities our Recreation and Parks Department will host this fall. The Ridgeland Christmas Tree Lighting on the Plaza at Old Town Crossing will be held on December 1st at 6:00 p.m.; Christmas at City Hall on the Ridgeland Green will be December 2nd at 5:30 p.m.; and the Ridgeland Christmas parade will take place on December 3rd at 1:00 p.m. All these events will get everyone in the Christmas Spirit, and I hope you will take advantage of them.

Finally, yet importantly, I would like to congratulate Chief Brian Myers. Brian was recently appointed as Chief of Police of the Ridgeland Police Department, and is adding many exciting programs to the department with the goal of continuing to make Ridgeland one of the safest cities anywhere in America. Being a police officer is an extremely tough job; however, we have some of the best law enforcement officers anywhere; and I, for one, am very proud of them.

I hope each of you have a great fall. Please know the employees at city hall stand ready to take care of your needs any time that we can.

Gene F. McGee

RIDGELAND LIFE

September 2022 - November 2022

EDITOR

Mary Beth McCullouch,
City of Ridgeland

SPONSORSHIP

Rachel Collier,
City of Ridgeland

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Ridgeland Life is a quarterly publication
of the City of Ridgeland.

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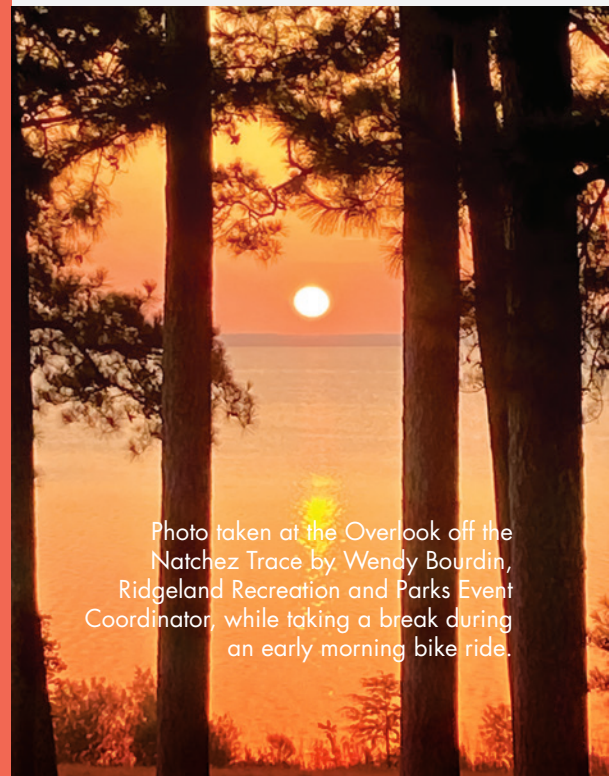


Photo taken at the Overlook off the Natchez Trace by Wendy Bourdin, Ridgeland Recreation and Parks Event Coordinator, while taking a break during an early morning bike ride.

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What's in a Name?

By Polly Hammett

THE HISTORICAL SOCIETY OF RIDGELAND **Telling Ridgeland's Story**



WHY DOES SPELLCHECK ALWAYS FLAG "HARBOUR" WHEN I TYPE IT IN AN ADDRESS? WHY DID RIDGELAND CHOOSE THE "BRITISH" WAY OF SPELLING THIS? THIS DROVE ME CRAZY UNTIL I LEARNED THAT THE BRITISH HAD NOTHING TO DO WITH IT. LAKE HARBOUR DRIVE IS NAMED FOR HALL HARBOUR, WHO SERVED AS MAYOR OF RIDGELAND FROM 1957 TO 1961.

Several of our streets are named for former mayors. I lived on Porter Street for over eight years and did not know it was named for our first mayor, R. L. Porter (1900 to 1909). Yellowly Lane (though misspelled) is named for the Yellowley family. James Brownlow Yellowley was mayor from 1909 to 1911. Others are Adcock Drive (Earl Adcock 1941 to 1951), Ridgeway Drive (M.B. Ridgeway 1961 to 1966), Wolcott Circle (Hite Wolcott 1966 to 1973 & 1977 to 1989) and McCormack Drive (D. F. McCormack 1973 to 1977).

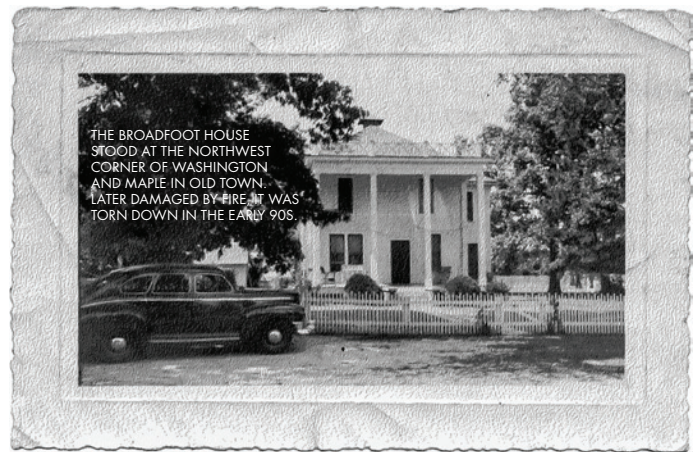
Long-time, well-known families are also honored with street names:

Brame, Broadfoot, Hawthorne, Carr, Moon, Millett, Perkins, Wheatley, Mary Harris and Ike Henderson to name a few. The Brame, Broadfoot and Carr families owned land and farmed in the area. The Mary Harris family descends from Patience Harris, a favored slave from the Yellowley Plantation, and have lived on their family property for over 100 years.

The Moon, Millett and Wheatley families and Ike Henderson lived and worked in Ridgeland. Col. Jesse Perkins and his wife Mary owned much of the land around Ridgeland. Their daughter, Jessamine Perkins Yellowley, (after whom Jessamine Cemetery is named) was the wife of James Brownlow Yellowley.

People, places and events from our history appear in development and street names. Old Agency Road is named for the Tribal Agency located in this area in the early 1800s. The Dinsmor subdivision is named for the first Choctaw Tribal Agent Silas Dinsmor, who served from 1802 to 1814. Silas' Meadow is named for him. Born in Windham, NH, Silas "Dinsmoor" was agent when The Natchez Trace was only a narrow cleared path from Natchez to Nashville. Over the years many notables (like President Thomas Jefferson) misspelled his last name. So, two centuries later, "Dinsmor" is the accepted spelling.

But, where did the name "Robbers' Trace" come from? It is based on stories (probably true) of highwaymen



(robbers) that went up and down the Trace, relieving travelers of their possessions.

Early developers, Nichols and Treacle, named Central Street for the Illinois Central Railroad, which played an important role in the growth of Ridgeland. They also named another street "Chicago Avenue"

because they were from Illinois. However, this street was later renamed "Sunnybrook Road".

We are a "Tree City" and there are many streets named for trees - peach, pear, pine, cherry laurel, maple, oak, red bud, pecan, willow, cherry, walnut and hickory. Wait... Hickory? Where is that street? Hickory Hill was located on the east side of Wheatley Drive. On July 5, 1994 the name was changed to Faith Hill, in honor of the music star who lived on the street when she was a child.

If any of you have stories behind our street names, we want to hear from you. Please send your contact information to MaryBeth@RidgelandMS.org, and she will put you in touch with the Historical Society.

Many thanks to long-time City employees, Ina Byrd and Karen Knight, for their contributions to this article. An old issue (1999) of Madison County Journal also provided much information.

The Society is changing the display in the History Room at City Hall. We are also working on a great project that we hope to "unveil" in the near future. Watch this space!!

A CONVERSATION WITH...

*Kim
Traylor*

By Mary Beth McCullough, Editor

Q: TELL ME A LITTLE ABOUT YOURSELF AND YOUR FAMILY

A: I am a wife and the mother of two children. I have a six-year-old little girl and a nine-year-old boy. I live in Brandon, and I was born in Denver, Colorado. We also have three dogs ranging from 18 pounds to a 90-pound 8-month-old puppy.

Q: BEING BORN IN DENVER, HOW DID YOU LAND IN MISSISSIPPI?

A: We had family here. We moved to Richland, where my grandparents lived, and we lived there for a couple of years. I attended Florence schools throughout my entire childhood, Kindergarten through 12th grade.

Q: YOU HAVE ACQUIRED DEGREES, CERTIFICATES, OR WORK EXPERIENCE IN VARIOUS VOCATIONS OVER THE YEARS. TELL ME MORE ABOUT THAT.

A: I sometimes feel like I've done about every job under the sun! I went to Ole Miss, and my initial major was psychology, but I later changed that to occupational therapy. After a while, I took a break from Ole Miss, and decided to get my barber's certificate from Hinds Community College. After I became a barber, I decided to go back to Ole Miss and major in graphic design. This was also the same time that I became a tattoo artist. Being a tattoo artist was a really great college job, and I made good money for a student! But, again, I decided to switch majors from graphic design to sculpture. It wasn't long after I switched to sculpture that I realized I didn't have the mindset for gallery shows, and I eventually graduated with a Bachelor's Degree in Art.

Q: WHAT DID YOU DO AFTER COLLEGE?

A: I lived in Oxford for about ten years. After I had my first child, we decided it would be best to live closer to family. We moved back, and I took a job at a local staffing agency. It was through working at that staffing agency that I got hired by the City of Ridgeland.

Q: HOW LONG HAVE YOU BEEN WITH THE CITY?

A: A little over four years.

Q: YOU RECENTLY GOT YOUR CERTIFICATION AS A DEPUTY CLERK. WHAT IS THE PROCESS TO OBTAIN THAT?

A: It was a lot of fun! It's a three-year commitment. Training was twice a year with two-and-a-half days of instruction each time. I learned all things related to running a city – utility funds, government structure, public administration, record keeping, technology – I can go on and on and on. We learned a little bit about everything, and I really enjoyed it! That's one of the reasons I've had so many jobs is because I like learning new things and being given new challenges.

Q: WHAT IS YOUR CURRENT JOB TITLE AND WHAT DOES THAT ENTAIL?

A: I am in charge of purchasing, and I am also the receptionist for the administration department. The bulk of my work consists of processing purchase orders within each department in the city. I verify invoices associated with each purchase for legal compliance and then pass the invoices on to accounts payable for payment. My other duties include greeting guests who have

an appointment with the mayor or other administrative officials. I also assist the administration department in various areas like new employee applications, privilege license applications, and record requests; and I oversee the maintenance and inspection of the elevator, fire alarm system, sprinkler system, and other components within the building of city hall.

Q: YOU'VE RECENTLY ACCEPTED A PROMOTION WITH A NEW TITLE. WHAT WILL BE YOUR NEW DUTIES?

A: I will be the Utility Billing Supervisor in the Water Department. I will oversee the billing of Ridgeland's water customers, which involves a series of processes such as meter readings, meter sets and swaps, service orders, new account establishment, payment processing, service disconnects, refunds, bank drafts, customer service calls, payment processing, and various other tasks.

Q: WHAT DO YOU LIKE TO DO IN YOUR SPARE TIME?

A: I like gardening. That is my true happy place!

HOW YOU CAN Prevent Stormwater Pollution

WHAT IS STORMWATER?

Stormwater is water from rain that does not soak into the ground. It flows from rooftops, over paved areas, bare soil, and sloped lawns. As it flows, stormwater collects and transports animal waste, litter, pesticides, fertilizers, oil and grease, soil, and other potential pollutants.

WHAT'S THE PROBLEM?

Rain events wash pollutants from land, streets, and construction sites into storm sewers and drainage ditches. Eventually, these empty the polluted stormwater directly into our streams, rivers and ultimately the Ross Barnett Reservoir with no treatment.

Polluted stormwater degrades our lakes, rivers, wetlands, reservoir, and other waterways. Nutrients such as phosphorous and nitrogen can cause the overgrowth of algae resulting in oxygen depletion in waterways. Toxic substances from motor vehicles and careless application of pesticides and fertilizers threaten water quality and can kill fish and other aquatic life. Bacteria from animal wastes and improper connections to storm sewer systems can make lakes and waterways unsafe for wading, swimming, and fish consumption. Eroded soil is a pollutant as well. It can cloud waterways and interfere with the habitat of fish and plant life.



THERE ARE MANY TYPES OF POLLUTANTS THAT FIND THEIR WAY INTO STORM DRAINS. SOME COMMON POLLUTANTS FOUND IN STORM SEWERS AND DRAINAGEWAYS INCLUDE:

- Animal Waste
- Litter
- Motor oil
- Yard clippings
- Fertilizers and pesticides
- Soapy car wash water
- Eroded sediment from construction sites

It's important to remember that any type of surface water runoff, not just rainfall, can run into the storm sewer and collect in the stormwater management system. For example, when you wash your car on the driveway, that water, dirt, and grime can end up in the system. That's why we need to be careful with what we put into the storm sewers as traces of all this material can end up in the stormwater system and our local waterways.

WHAT CAN YOU DO TO PREVENT STORMWATER POLLUTION IN RIDGELAND?

1. Remember: Only rain belongs in the drain!
2. Wash your car over your lawn or gravel.
3. Keep your car well maintained.
4. Consider disconnecting your downspouts and rerouting the water into a rain garden.
5. Use lawn or garden chemicals sparingly.
6. Plant native, low maintenance plants and grasses.
7. Minimize runoff by not over-watering your lawn and garden.
8. Clean up pet waste.
9. Consider minimizing impervious surfaces around your home.
10. Do not drain your pool, spa, or fountain to a storm drain.
11. Make sure storm drain outfalls are not running in dry weather. If it hasn't rained in 72 hours, it should not be flowing. Call Ridgeland public works at (601) 853-2027 if it does.
12. Properly maintain your neighborhood stormwater pond.
13. Install a rain barrel or cistern to capture roof runoff.
14. Walk, bike, or share a ride when possible.

It's Greek to Me, Mississippi to Yiayia's



YIAYIA'S GREEK KITCHEN

GREEK KITCHEN IN RIDGELAND CELEBRATES ANNIVERSARY, AWARDS, AND AMERICAN CITIZENSHIP

By Mary Beth McCullough, Editor

Ridgeland restaurateurs, Despina and Stefano Mangafakis, have a lot of reasons to be grateful. Known as Yiayia and Pappou (Greek for grandmother and grandfather, respectfully) to friends, family, and regulars, the gratefulness and joy emanated by this sweet couple is apparent from the moment you walk in the door; and if their beautiful Greek accents wouldn't deceive the ears accustomed to American English, you'd believe they were born and raised in the Hospitality State. But, in fact, it was only around seven years ago when they started calling Mississippi their home.

"When I was 21, my husband and I moved from Greece to Connecticut, where we also owned restaurants, and we lived there until we moved to Mississippi several years ago," Mangafakis said, "but my true love for this country didn't happen until we moved to Mississippi. The people here know how to eat; know how to pray; and know how to love. They care about others as they care about their own. Their hospitality reminds me of Greece, and I feel like this is my home now."

Mangafakis and her husband made the decision to move to Mississippi to be closer to family. "My son married a girl from Brandon, and they gave us two beautiful grandsons, but seven years ago, they decided to move from Connecticut to her home state of Mississippi," Mangafakis said. "It was hard being away from them, and one Christmas, my husband and I packed up everything and moved to Mississippi."



Fast-forward a half decade. The proud owners of Yiayia's Greek Kitchen just celebrated their five-year anniversary and were recently awarded the 2022 Gold Award by the global organization Greek Taste Beyond Borders for their Authentic Greek Cuisine. Mangafakis is proud of her heritage and the ability to share her gift of authentic Greek cooking with her customers. "We only wanted to open a small restaurant when we moved to Mississippi, but it's continued to grow

because we are known for our authentic Greek cuisine that can't be found anywhere else," she explained. "The ingredients and recipes are the same we used in Greece. I haven't changed a thing."

Another proud moment for Mangafakis arose when she finished all her courses to become an American citizen and recently traveled to New Orleans to accept her official citizenship. "I didn't even think about getting my citizenship until I moved to Mississippi, but for the first time since I left Greece so many years ago, I finally feel like I'm at home in Mississippi, Mangafakis beamed, "and I thank God every day because I live in the most wonderful place."

Located at 587 Highway 51, Yiayia's Greek Kitchen is open Monday through Saturday from 11 a.m. to 9 p.m. For more information, visit them on Facebook @yiayiasgreekkitchenms or their website at www.yiayiasgreekkitchen.net. Also, kids, don't forget to ask Pappou about his ice cream stash!

KEEP RIDGELAND BEAUTIFUL WAS A RECIPIENT OF A NATIONAL AWARD SPONSORED BY CANADIAN NATIONAL RAILROAD AND AMERICA IN BLOOM. THE AWARD INCLUDED A GRANT THAT WAS USED TO PLANT TREES ALONG COLONY PARK BOULEVARD.



Digging Deep for *Rewards and Awards*

By Ginger Cocke, DAR Member

At the back of this magazine there is a listing of people, departments and contact information to help "Ridgelanders" with questions, problems and emergencies. There is also a listing of City Meetings that shows various committees that have been established to assist the City and its various departments in adherence to City Ordinances. Appointed by the Mayor and Aldermen, these committees are essential to the City of Ridgeland.

While most of the committees deal with meetings and LOTS of paperwork, there is one that gets "down and dirty" on a regular basis. Originally established as the Beautification Committee, Keep Ridgeland Beautiful was accredited with Keep America Beautiful/Keep Mississippi Beautiful in 2014 and has earned President's Circle and Circle of Excellence honors every year since. Twelve talented and dedicated women have served on this eight-member committee. They work with several City departments, the schools and other organizations, as well as other state affiliates on projects like planting flowers and trees in our parks and on the trails, building gardens, and promoting recycling in schools. This hard work has been acknowledged with numerous awards from Keep America Beautiful, Keep Mississippi Beautiful and America in Bloom.

National awards include two large matching grants, one for \$25K in 2019 and another for \$50K in 2021, from America in bloom and Canadian National Railroad. These funds were used to plant trees on Highland Colony Parkway and Colony Park Boulevard. Keep Ridgeland

Beautiful (KRB) and several City departments worked together to acquire the grants. In 2021 Ridgeland also won the Overall Impression Award presented by America in Bloom that recognizes a community that is welcoming, attractive and well designed and has good maintenance policies and plans in place.

KEEP AMERICA BEAUTIFUL HAS BESTOWED THE FOLLOWING NATIONAL AWARDS:

- Keep Ridgeland Beautiful received the William "Bill" Nash Award as Outstanding New Affiliate in 2015.
- Old Town Middle School earned the Youth Project Award for their work at Midway Park, designing and building a pergola (2015).
- The Wildflower and Art Park received the 2020 Innovation Award
- The Never Forget Garden has just been awarded the National Partnership Award for 2021.
- Out of almost 700 national affiliates, Keep Ridgeland Beautiful has been designated August 2022 Affiliate of the Month!

STATE AWARDS RECEIVED FROM KEEP MISSISSIPPI BEAUTIFUL INCLUDE THESE SPECIAL RECOGNITIONS:

- Partner Award was presented to Barbara Brown and Colonial Heights Baptist Church for their work at Midway Park in 2016.
- The Youth Award was presented to Old Town Middle School for their outstanding work on the Midway Park Project in 2016.

- Ridgeland High School Recyclers won the Championship/Recycle Bowl in 2017 and the Youth and Education Award in 2018.
- As then President of Ridgeland Chamber of Commerce, Karen McKie (GreenOak Nursery) won the Community Partnership Award for the Zinnia Fields Forever project in 2018.
- Led by Ms. Gabrielle Mills, with over 100 biology students participating, the Ridgeland High School began a garden program in 2021 that is ongoing. RHS won the 2022 Education Program Award for this project.
- The 2022 Partnership Award was presented for the DAR Never Forget Garden. This garden, located at Freedom Ridge, commemorates the 100th anniversary of the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier.

SEVERAL INDIVIDUALS HAVE BEEN RECOGNIZED WITH STATEWIDE AWARDS FROM KEEP MISSISSIPPI BEAUTIFUL:

- Mayor Gene McGee was honored as Mayor of the Year in 2017.
- The Pat Fordice Community Service Award has been presented to Tim Taylor of Recreation and Parks (2016) Jan Richardson (2017), and Polly Hammett (2022).
- The Ron Aldrich Volunteer of the Year Award was presented to Rachel Collier (2018) and Phyllis Parker (2021).

While we are happy to receive these accolades, the real reward is seeing the results of the hard work put into our projects. It is so gratifying to see people walking through the wildflower field, enjoying the flowers, butterflies and sculptures. Many homes and offices have been brightened by bouquets from the zinnia field. And many hearts are touched as people sit at the pavilion at Freedom Ridge to reflect in the DAR Never Forget Garden. Seeing the pride a student has in his or her participation in a project like recycling, gardening or designing and building a structure is beyond words.

We enjoy working with other Keep Mississippi Beautiful affiliates on projects around the state. These projects include refreshing a park in Hazlehurst, building a playground/park in Flora, planting a fruit orchard in Jackson and building a community garden in Belzoni. Other state affiliates came to Ridgeland to help us refurbish Midway Park by planting trees and shrubs and installing a pergola and playground equipment. Every year we participate in the Pearl River Cleanup Project, helping to remove trash and litter from the reservoir area.

It is always fun to join the Historical Society and Ridgeland Garden Club helping the Recreation and Parks Department decorate the Plaza at Old Town Crossing for the Christmas Tree Lighting Event. Annually we prepare the Litter Index Report for Keep America Beautiful. With Georgia Myrick of Code Enforcement giving directions, we ride through various areas of the City to rate the amount of litter on the streets, in the ditches and in the yards. This is one of many reports and activities that must be done to meet requirements for President's Circle and Circle of Excellence.

The Household Hazardous Waste Collection event is a joint effort with the City of Madison and MS Department of Environmental Quality. Volunteers from Keep Ridgeland/Madison Beautiful join Recreation and Parks, Public Works and the Police Department, working many hours (in the hot sun!) to pull off this event. We are constantly looking for ways to make this event more accessible to the residents of Madison County.

Using a Pepsi grant from Keep America Beautiful, we created a mascot...Recycle Ranger... to enhance the recycle program in Ridgeland. He has appeared at KidFest, Balloon Glow, The Christmas Parade and several other City activities. The Ranger is loved by kids and adults alike.

KRB works hand-in-hand with personnel from Public Works, Recreation & Parks and Community Development. They attend our meetings, present ideas and give their full support. We also receive full support from the Mayor and Board of Aldermen and we are happy to "show off" the awards won on behalf of the City. We gratefully acknowledge the contributions from prior KRB members and former City personnel who gave so much of their time and effort.

Have you noticed...The recurrent theme in all of these activities is COOPERATION!! None of these awards, projects or activities were accomplished by ONE person. In every instance, teachers, students, city departments and personnel and other civic groups have joined with us as we worked to fulfill our mission... "To inspire, educate and lead residents to take daily actions to beautify and improve the City of Ridgeland."



TO SCHEDULE THE RECYCLE RANGER FOR YOUR CIVIC EVENT, CALL RIDGELAND PUBLIC WORKS (601) 853-2027.



Myers Appointed *as Chief of Ridgeland Police Department*

By Mary Beth McCullouch

Mayor Gene McGee and the Ridgeland Board of Alderman are pleased to announce the appointment of Lieutenant Brian Myers as Chief of the Ridgeland Police Department. The announcement was made in June during a meeting of the Mayor and Board and comes after the retirement notice of Chief John Neal.

“The Board and I are very happy with our decision to appoint Lt. Myers as our next Chief of Police. His impeccable qualifications, experience, leadership, and respect from other officers within the department made it evident he is the right choice to lead our department,” Mayor McGee stated. “We congratulate him and look forward to his continued service to our community.”

Myers’ career in law enforcement began in 1998 when he was hired as a patrol officer with the Ridgeland PD. Since then, Myers has held various positions within the Ridgeland PD, including commander of both Criminal Investigations and Patrol divisions and co-commander of the SWAT team.

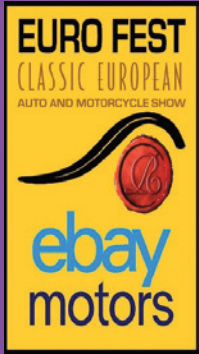
“I’m grateful to the Mayor and Board of Aldermen for having the faith in me to lead the best police department in the state. It has been a privilege to serve Ridgeland for the past 24 years, and I’m honored to continue my career as its Chief of Police,” Myers said.

Within a few years of being hired as patrolman, Myers was promoted to detective and was further promoted to patrol sergeant, detective sergeant, and lastly to commander. Myers is a 1998 graduate of Mississippi College with a degree in Administration of Justice and the Mississippi Law Enforcement Officers Training Academy in Pearl. Additionally, Myers is a Certified Investigator through the MLEOTA Certified Investigator Program. Most notably, Myers graduated with Session 269 from the FBI National Academy in Quantico, an honor bestowed to only a small percentage of officers within the United States.

Most recently, Myers commanded the Patrol Division of the Ridgeland PD, and his appointment to Chief took effect July 1, 2022.

Renaissance Euro Fest Announces *eBay Motors as Major Sponsor*

By Mike Marsh



The Renaissance Euro Fest Classic European Auto & Motorcycle Show (REF) is pleased to announce that eBay Motors will be a major sponsor of the event set to be held in Ridgeland, MS at The Renaissance September 30 - October 1. The traditional parade of vehicles traveling through Madison County will be held Friday prior to the start of the show

on Saturday, and REF is excited to start a new tradition by renaming the parade of vehicles as the “eBay Motors Renaissance Road Rally Drive.”

“I have personally been a user of eBay Motors for over a decade. It has been my go-to source for finding

rare parts and common new parts,” REF and Director Mike Marsh said. “eBay Motors is a great resource for the collector car community, and we look forward to sharing the Renaissance Euro Fest experience with them.”

This year the event will be held on Saturday, October 1, from 10:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. The show accepts vehicle admissions from European Marques built in 1997 or before and newer vehicles of special interest. There are no entry fees, and the event is free to the public as well. Over 15,000 spectators are expected to view 150-plus entries from 10 different states, all of which were manufactured in one of five European countries.

For more information: www.euro-fest.net

eBay Motors – Every Part for Every Ride www.eBayMotors.com



COME ALONG FOR THE RIDE IN RIDGELAND

Auto enthusiasts, this one is for you! Save the date for the 14th annual Renaissance Euro Fest Classic European Auto and Motorcycle Show being held September 30-October 1, 2022.

Browse through classic vehicles from all over the world among the Old-world style atmosphere of Renaissance at Colony Park. Enjoy European beer tasting and live music.

For more information, visit www.visitridgeland.com/events/

RIDGELAND
MISSISSIPPI
VISITRIDGELAND.COM
INSIDE + OUT



Lana Odom Appointed to *Madison County Library Board*

By Mary Beth McCullouch

At a recent meeting of the Mayor and Board of Aldermen, Lana Odom was appointed as Ridgeland's representative to the Madison County Library Board. A former librarian and teacher at Madison Ridgeland Academy, Odom is looking forward to her new appointment.

"Being the elementary librarian at MRA was the best job ever! I love reading, I love Ridgeland, and I love living here. Ridgeland is an ideal location, and I am fortunate to have so many friends here!" Odom said. "My husband Jerry and I lived in Ridgeland in the 70's, and we both served on staff at Ridgeland Baptist Church, now called First Baptist Church, Ridgeland."

Later, Odom and her husband moved from Ridgeland and served churches in Virginia, Florida, Texas, and Mississippi, eventually returning to Ridgeland to serve at Trace Ridge Baptist Church and then Colonial Heights Baptist Church.

After her husband's passing, Odom moved to Seoul, South Korea, to teach English in a small school for two years. Her worldly travels didn't stop there. Over the course of seven years, Odom had the opportunity to visit Australia, New Zealand, England, Ireland, Wales, Spain, Italy, and France with Student Ambassadors from People to People.

Most recently, Odom was the Director of International Ministry at First Baptist Church in Jackson where she led the ESL program. Now retired, Odom has made Ridgeland her home again.

Mayor Gene McGee believes Odom to be the perfect choice. "The Board and I are really excited to have Lana on the Library Board. Her past experience as a librarian, teacher, and mentor made the decision to appoint her an effortless one," McGee said.

KEEP RIDGELAND BEAUTIFUL

Yard of the Month Awards



JUNE



June Business Yard of the Month
Personnel Plus and Nutrition Systems at 404 Legacy Park



June Residential Yard of the Month
Becky and Earl Walker at Indian Gate Circle

JULY



July Business Yard of the Month
Paragon Centre' at 576 Highland Colony Pkwy



July Residential Yard of the Month
Charles W. Greenlee at Hawthorne Vale

AUGUST



August Business Yard of the Month
Southern Ag Credit at 402 West Parkway Place



August Residential Yard of the Month
The Brinkley Family at Old Agency Road

recre8



TopSoccer

This soccer program is provided for special needs participants.

For more information, contact topsoccerms.com.



MRYC Basketball

Ridgeland Recreation and Parks partners with Madison Ridgeland Youth Club providing sports leagues for the community.

To find out more information about the 2022 basketball season, visit: madisonridgelandyouthclubbasketball.website.sportssignup.com



Mississippi Cyclocross Events

Kids Project

This cycling program opportunity is for first time participants as well as skilled racers. Team Ambassadors will give Cyclocross instruction on riding technique, equipment and skills as well as emphasize sportsmanship and teamwork.

- Free cycling program for kids ages 6 - 12.
- Participants must register
- Participants must be able to ride a bike without training wheels.

More details and registration available at www.msxcproject.org.

Start Date: September 3, 2022

End Date: October 22, 2022

Start Time: 10:00 am

Location: Freedom Ridge Park

Weeknight Series

This bike series is for participants to race their mountain bike, cross bike, or gravel bike in a fun and inviting environment.

- All ages and levels are welcome.
- Junior races are FREE!
- More details on Facebook @ [mississippicyclocrosscupseries](https://www.facebook.com/mississippicyclocrosscupseries) or www.msxcup.com

Dates: Thursdays, September 1, 8, 15
Saturday, September 24



Cycle Out Kids Cancer

A fall fundraiser bike ride through west Madison County with donations going to Children's of Mississippi Center for Cancer and Blood Disorders.

- All level riders are welcome
- Distance options are available
- Rest stops and bike support provided
- Complimentary tailgate meal and music
- Registration is required to participate.
- Register at: <https://runsignup.com/Race/MS/Ridgeland/CycleOutKidsCancer>

Don't miss this important opportunity to put your pedals to a purpose and cycle out kids' cancer!

Date: Saturday, October 8, 2022 @ 7:30 a.m.

Location: The North End of Renaissance at Colony Park



Mayor's Fun Walk

Mayor Gene McGee will lead a light walk with participants.

- Enjoy refreshments and entertainment!
- Walk as much or as little as you want
- Must register to receive a t-shirt
- Drawings will be held for door prizes
- Check out other Sr. Adult events and activities! Sr. Adult Coordinator, Neeley Jones, invites everyone to visit her at the Ridgeland Recreational Center.
- Email Neeley for program information, neeley.jones@ridgelandms.org
- There is no admission charge for this event.
- Follow the Sr. Adult Program on Facebook: @ridgelandsuperstarseniors

Date: Wednesday, October 12, 2022
@ 9 a.m.
Location: Ridgeland Recreational Center



Trunk or Treat

Dress up in costume and bring a bag to collect your candy!

- Trunk or Treat is for Ages 10 & under.
 - Kids trick or treat from car trunk to car trunk.
 - Admission is \$5 per child.
- Happy Halloween!
- VOLUNTEER at Trunk or Treat

Ridgeland Recreation and Parks Department welcomes local businesses, organizations and volunteers to provide vehicles, candy, and manpower to make our Trunk of Treat a success. If you are interested, please contact our office at 601.853.2011.

Date: Thursday, October 27, 2022
Time: 6 p.m. to 8 p.m.
Location: Freedom Ridge Park



Ridgeland Letters To Santa

Ridgeland Recreation and Parks will have a dedicated mailbox for letters to the North Pole. Drop your letters off and receive a letter back from Santa!

- Include name and address for Santa's reply letter.
- Only letters received from the mailbox will receive a reply letter.
- Duplicate letters will receive one reply letter.
- Letters must be received by December 15
- There is no charge for letters to Santa.

Date: December 1 - 15
Location: On the North Side of the Ridgeland Green in front of City Hall



Ridgeland Christmas Tree Lighting

Come join us for the Annual Christmas Tree Lighting and start your holiday season!

- Christmas music
- Welcome Santa
- Make a holiday craft
- Count down to the lighting of the tree
- There is no admission charge for this event.
- This evening is presented by The Historical Society of Ridgeland.

Date: Thursday, December 1, 2022 @ 6p.m.
Location: Plaza at Old Town Crossing



Christmas At City Hall On The Ridgeland Green

Join us on the Ridgeland Green at Ridgeland City Hall for a festive evening of holiday cheer.

- Enjoy holiday snacks
- Make a holiday craft
- Play holiday games
- Get a photo with Santa
- Listen to live Christmas music
- Watch a Christmas movie
- The holiday theme is the Polar Express. Everyone is welcome to wear their pajamas!
- There is no admission charge for this event.

Date: Friday, December 2, 2022
Time: 5:30 p.m. to 8 p.m.
Location: On the Ridgeland Green at City Hall



Ridgeland Christmas Parade

Ridgeland Mayor McGee and City Aldermen will lead bands, businesses, and other organizations with an old-fashioned Christmas parade through the Old Town neighborhood.

- Polar Express will be the parade theme.
- Parade begins and ends at Holmes Community College in Ridgeland
- Parade route will make a square and include Maple Street, Jackson Street, and Sunnybrook Road.
- There is no admission charge for this event.

Date: Saturday, December 3, 2022 @ 1p.m.
Location: Old Town Ridgeland

Participate in the Christmas Parade

Ridgeland Recreation and Parks Department invites local schools, businesses, and organizations to decorate a float, ride, or walk in the Christmas parade. This is a free opportunity to promote your business or organization and support our community.

Email Wendy Bourdin for a parade participation form at wendy.bourdin@ridgelandms.org.

Keeping Kids Active!



Mississippi Cyclocross
Project

**A free cycling program
for kids ages 6 to 12.**

www.msctxproject.org



Skyhawks Sports
Academy

**An introduction program
to a variety of sports.**

www.skyhawks.com



Providing bicycles for all ages!

Facebook: @bicyclerevolution



Martial Arts and more!

Facebook: @AOFKDragonClaw

NORTHPARK

Join the Northpark Kids Club!

www.visitnorthpark.com/kids



Helping keep kids safe & healthy!

www.afcurgentcare.com/ridgeland



Food fuel for more fun!

Ridgeland location: 601.790.7333



Stay in the know!

onlinemadison.com



See the future!

proeyems.com



 **RIDGELANDRECREATIONANDPARKS**

recreation & parks

superstar seniors

WEEKLY PROGRAMS

Exercise

\$15/month

Monday, Wednesday, Friday
9 AM - 10 AM, 10 AM - 11 AM

Instructors: Lisa Newman, Rita Latham,
and Lynda Assink

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.

Seated Yoga

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

Mondays, Wednesdays, and Fridays
11 AM - 11:30 AM

Instructor: Lisa Newman

This class trains breathing and focuses your mind.

Standing Yoga

\$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

Tuesdays and Thursdays 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.

Artmakers

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

Dates: 9/15, 10/20, 11/17 1 PM - 4 PM

A team trick taking game played with a standard 52 playing card deck.

Ornish Group

FREE

Dates: 9/27, 10/25, 11/22 11:30 AM

Participants all have a common goal of reversing their heart disease and improving their wellbeing.

Birthday Bingo

FREE

9/22, 10/27, 11/10 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.

special events

Zentangle “Nature Tangles” Class

September 16th, 1-3 pm
Suzanne Lien, Certified Zentangle Teacher
\$20 for a two hour class

Let's have fun with tangles that can represent natural elements such as rain, flowers, flowing water, plants and bugs. We will learn how to combine these tangles into a drawing that brings to mind a magical garden. Then we will explore how to draw on objects such as rocks, seashells and even faux pumpkins for fall decorating. Please bring your pens, pencils and blending tools. Suzanne will provide paper and instructional handouts to take home. Register at neeley.jones@ridgelandms.org.



“Piccadillies” Pickleball Clinic

Wednesdays in October, 8-9:30 AM
(Clinic cancelled if inclement weather)
Instructor Cheryl Truong, Central MS Pickleball and USA Pickleball Ambassador
Registration Required: Email neeley.jones@ridgelandms.org or call (601) 856-6876.

\$5/class – each class will build off of each other so it's best not to miss a class!

Pickleball is a hybrid of tennis, ping-pong and badminton that's played on a court roughly half the size of a singles tennis court. The whiffle-type ball used is lighter than a tennis ball, and players are armed with a shorter, lighter paddle that's only slightly bigger than one used for ping-pong.

Pickleball Clinic Requirements:

- For Ages 50+
- Pickleball Paddle
- Tennis shoes, towel & water
- \$4 court fee

Mayor's Fun Walk

Wednesday, October 12, 2022, 9 a.m.
@Ridgeland Recreational Center
Mayor Gene McGee will lead a light walk then enjoy refreshments and entertainment!

- Walk as much or as little as you want
- Drawings will be held for door prizes
- Check out other Sr. Adult events and activities
- There is no admission charge for this event, but you must register to neeley.jones@ridgelandms.org to receive a t-shirt!

Women's Bible Study – Aging with Grace

Wednesdays
September and October
2:30 p.m. – 3:30 p.m.
Ridgeland Rec Center
Change this sentence to say:
Led by Minister Debbie Upchurch
Register: neeley.jones@ridgelandms.org or 601-856-6876

Whatever season of life you're in, God has equipped you to flourish – to live in the transforming power and beauty of his grace. As we age, we can easily lose sight of this message as cultural ideals glorifying youth take center stage. Bring your bible and a copy of "Aging with Grace" as we meet for this 8 week study.

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!

Neeley Jones

Senior Adult Coordinator

(601) 856-6876
neeley.jones@ridgelandms.org
Facebook: [facebook.com/ridgelandsuperstarseniors](https://www.facebook.com/ridgelandsuperstarseniors)
Ridgeland Recreational Center
137 Old Park Trail
Ridgeland, MS 39157



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.

events

SEPTEMBER & OCTOBER

Aging with Grace -
Women's Bible Study
Ridgeland Recreation Center
Every Wednesday in Sept. & Oct.
2:30 – 3:30 p.m.

SEPTEMBER 13

Madison County Mystery
Readers Book Club
Ridgeland Library
10:30 a.m. – noon

SEPTEMBER 15

Ridgeland Chamber
Business after Hours
Northpark
5 p.m. – 7 p.m.

SEPTEMBER - OCTOBER 26
2

Sanderson Farms PGA
Championship

SEPTEMBER 27

Y'all Vote!
Discussion with
Secretary of State official
Ridgeland Library
4 p.m.

SEPTEMBER - OCTOBER 30
1

EuroFest Automobile and
Motorcycle Show
Renaissance at Colony Park

OCTOBER 1-31

Ridgeland Scarecrow Trail
Wildflower Field on Jackson St.
More Info: hwillkins@visitridgeland.com
or 601-605-5257
Hosted by Visit Ridgeland

OCTOBER 6

Ridgeland Chamber Fall
Golf Classic
Lake Caroline Golf Club
Registration/Lunch – 11:30 p.m.
Shotgun Start – 1:00 p.m.

OCTOBER 8

Cycle Out Kids Cancer
Bike Ride
*North end of Renaissance at
Colony Park*
7:30 a.m.
Registration: <https://runsignup.com/Race/MS/Ridgeland/CycleOutKidsCancer>

OCTOBER 12

Mayor's Fun Walk
Ridgeland Recreation Center
9 a.m.

OCTOBER 15-16

15th Annual Fat Tire
Festival & McGee
Lungbuster

OCTOBER 18

Brian Riley, Paranormal
Investigator
Ridgeland Library

OCTOBER

22

RidCon
Ridgeland Library
 9 a.m. – 5 p.m.

OCTOBER

27

Trunk-or-Treat
Freedom Ridge Park
 \$5 per child
 6 p.m. – 8 p.m.

OCTOBER

27-29

Fall Book Sale
Ridgeland Library

OCTOBER

29-30

Spooky 'Cross Cyclocross
Mag Ridge BMX Track

OCTOBER

30

Turtle Tricks and Treats
Blaylock Photography Studio
 More Info:
 kburkhalter@visitridgeland.com or
 601-605-5250
<https://www.visitridgeland.com/turtle-tricks-treats/>
 Hosted by Visit Ridgeland

NOVEMBER

1

Dia de los Muertos
 (Day of the Dead)
Ridgeland Library
 4:30 p.m.

NOVEMBER

2-5

Mistletoe Marketplace
MS Trade Mart

NOVEMBER

8

Tech Take Apart
Ridgeland Library
 4 p.m.

NOVEMBER

10

Ridgeland Chamber
 Business after Hours
Embassy Suites
 5 p.m. – 7 p.m.

NOVEMBER

19-20

Ridgeland Cyclocross
 Festival
Freedom Ridge Park/MTB Trails

NOVEMBER

22

Potluck Contest
Ridgeland Library
 4:30 p.m.

NOVEMBER

24

Turkey Day 8K and ¼ Mile
 Turkey Trot
 Thanksgiving Day
Fleet Feet

NOVEMBER

26

Small Business Saturday

DECEMBER

1

Christmas Tree Lighting
Plaza at Old Town Crossing
6 p.m.

DECEMBER

2

Christmas at City Hall
Ridgeland Green
5:30 p.m. – 8 p.m.

DECEMBER

3

Ridgeland Christmas
Parade
Old Town Ridgeland
1 p.m.

DECEMBER

6

Mayor's Prayer Breakfast
Colonial Heights Baptist Church
7 a.m. – Breakfast Buffet
7:30 a.m. - Program



Rogers, Ainsworth & Williams, PLLC



Ridgeland High School

Grades 9-12 • 586 Sunnybrook Road • 601.898.5023 • www.madison-schools.com/rhs

By Jan Richardson

This Road Map to Becoming a Doctor goes through Ridgeland High

Alumni inspire others to follow their dreams



THREE OF THE 160 STUDENTS RECEIVING THE DOCTOR OF MEDICINE DEGREE AT THE UNIVERSITY OF MISSISSIPPI MEDICAL CENTER IN MAY 2022 ARE RIDGELAND HIGH GRADUATES. L TO R, KHAJID MANZOU, JESSICA (MILNER) GRADY, AND SOMTO NGWUDIKE.

The journey through medical or dental school is a lengthy process, yet one of which many Ridgeland High graduates undertake. This year alone, 3 of the 160 new Doctor of Medicine degrees awarded to the University of Mississippi Medical Center (UMMC) Class of 2022 are Ridgeland High Titans!

Martin McCandless, RHS class of 2015, is a fourth-year medical student at UMMC. Fourth-year students conduct rotations in specialties of interest prior to applying for residency programs. Martin spent the month of July at the Mayo Clinic in Rochester,

Minnesota. Impressively, the Mayo Clinic has been ranked the No. 1 hospital in the nation for six straight years!

Ridgeland High alumni also have a high acceptance rate into the Ole Miss Early Entry Pharmacy Program, an accelerated program in which students graduate with a Bachelor's Degree in Pharmaceutical Sciences and a Pharm D degree in seven years.

Dr. Allen Richert, a member of the UMMC Department of Psychiatry and Human Behavior, and the father of two Titan graduates and a current senior, is proud to encounter

Ridgeland High alumni thriving at UMMC Medical Center.

"Titans are succeeding in a variety of healthcare careers, including medicine, dentistry, medical research, pharmacy, nursing and allied health fields. In fact, several days a week I work with a nurse who is a Titan alumna!"

Ameley and Lamley Lawson, two Titan sisters who graduated from Ridgeland High School almost a decade apart, find their career pathways converging. Currently a second-year medical student at Yale School of Medicine, Lamley did scientific research and served in the Peace Corps before medical school. Ameley, RHS '17, Rhodes College '21, earned a Masters in Biomedical Sciences at UMMC this year and is preparing to apply to med school in the future.

In pursuit of their chosen health-care careers, siblings Morgan ('17) and Justin ('13) McCray's road map first took them to Copiah-Lincoln Community College and Southwest Community College, respectively, where they played basketball; followed by two years at the University of Mississippi. Dr. Justin McCray, DMD, Case Western Reserve University School of



LAMLEY LAWSON (LEFT) IS PURSUING HER MD AT YALE COLLEGE OF MEDICINE. AMELY LAWSON GRADUATED WITH A MASTERS IN BIOMEDICAL SCIENCES IN MAY.

Dental Medicine '21, is a resident in pediatric dentistry at Case Western Reserve and University Hospitals Rainbow Babies and Children's Hospital, and Morgan is a senior in college.

"I never thought growing up that I could be a doctor," said Justin. My career path to dentistry just as easily could not have happened. I was sitting in class my freshman year of college and my dad texted me, 'Son, you need to be thinking about what you want to be when you grow up.' At that moment I googled top jobs in the United States, and dentistry was number one. I knew that I needed to spend some time in the field to see if I would enjoy this as a career path. The very next day, I reached out to a dentist to set up a time where I could watch him while he worked."

"One Tuesday morning, while I was shadowing a local dentist, a patient came to the clinic with extremely sore gums because of his dentures. After about an hour, the dentist returned with the patient's adjusted dentures. As the patient tried on the new dentures, he began to cry. He said,



MORGAN MCCRAY GRADUATED FROM RIDGELAND HIGH AND WAS HONORED TO BE ACCEPTED INTO THE MISSISSIPPI RURAL SCHOLARS PHYSICIANS PROGRAM.

'For twenty years, my gums have been hurting. I thought that this was how dentures were supposed to feel. From the bottom of my heart, thank you.' Once I witnessed this occurrence, I knew then that dentistry was for me. I saw first-hand the direct impact that a dentist has on a person's life."

Justin's sister Morgan will enter UMMC next fall as part of the Mississippi Rural Physicians Scholarship Program. For Morgan, career day in elementary school provides an early memory related to her career trajectory. "In second grade, for career day, I decided to dress up as a pediatrician," said Morgan. "At the time, I did not know what becoming a pediatrician entailed. I only knew that my pediatric doctor helped me feel better when no one else could. However, as I have gotten older, I have shifted my mindset from dreams to reality. I, myself, have never been treated by an African American physician. Due to the lack of representation, I began questioning my own capabilities. It is my goal to show other young

people that look like me, that they too are capable. The journey to becoming a doctor will continue to be challenging, but it is one that I am up for!"

Morgan began shadowing doctors in the medical field her senior year of high school. "As an undergraduate I have participated in programs dedicated to helping minority students increase exposure in the health science field. Programs like the Summer Health Professions Education Program, Mississippi IDeA Network of Biomedical Research, Louis Stokes Mississippi Alliance for Minority Participation Program- Increasing Minority Access to Graduate Education (LSMAMP-IMAGE), and the Mississippi Rural Physicians Scholarship Program have allowed me to gain knowledge and experience while networking with professionals in my field of interest, ultimately confirming my career goal."

"Each Titans' road map looks unique," Morgan offered. "Continue to stay motivated when faced with obstacles."

Justin McCray shares something simple that helped him through the process. "Write down your aspirations, put it where you can see it every day. Seeing your dreams in your own handwriting makes the task personal. Dive deep into the field you are interested in, read about the profession, and pay close attention to what it takes to become that professional.

"I still have my note hanging up, that I wrote 10 years ago," Justin said. "I will be a dentist.' it says. In the end, I am very appreciative of my dad for inspiring me, and for the journey that transpired."

Principal Crystal Chase levels up to Ridgeland High

An interview with this long-time Titan leader



MRS. CRYSTAL CHASE WAS SELECTED BY THE MADISON COUNTY SCHOOL BOARD TO SERVE AS LEAD PRINCIPAL AT RIDGELAND HIGH SCHOOL.

WHAT IS YOUR HISTORY IN THE TITAN ZONE?

“I came to Old Town Middle School as a first-year teacher when I graduated from The University of Southern Mississippi. I taught

eighth-grade English Language Arts (ELA) for five years and served as Assistant Principal for eight years. I had the privilege of being the Head Principal at Old Town Middle School for six years.

What are ways the community and businesses can support the Titan students and/or staff?

“Community and businesses can support Titan students by helping us promote our slogan, ‘It’s a Great Day to be a Titan.’ Help our school celebrate student success and show appreciation for our faculty and staff. Sponsorships and partnering with schools are always great ways to show support.” Email cchase@madison-schools.com to find out specific ways to assist.

Chase’s goals include continuing to build on the ACT Prep Program,

with the goal of increasing each students’ scores, providing an even greater number of Advanced Placement classes and dual credit classes, and continuing to prepare students for college and the workforce.

Mrs. Chase is married, and her son Ian is a junior at Ridgeland High. Like many of us, the beach is her favorite place to visit and the Saints are her favorite NFL team. She is a Sunday school teacher and choir musician at her church and a member of Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Incorporated.

Local community members and businesses may also join the PTO. Put a shout out to the Ridgeland Titans on your business social media or marquee sign. #TitanUp and #TitansShineBrightly.

RIDGELAND TITAN FOOTBALL

2022 SCHEDULE

AUG 19 - MURRAH MUSTANGS SCRIMMAGE	SEP 30 - WILKINSON COUNTY WILDCATS <small>HOME COMING</small>
AUG 26 - NORTHWEST RANKIN COUGARS	OCT 7 - NESHOPA CENTRAL ROCKETS ★
SEP 2 - PEARL PIRATES	OCT 14 - VICKSBURG GATORS ★
SEP 9 - JIM HILL TIGERS ★	OCT 21 - FOREST HILL PATRIOTS ★ <small>SENIOR NIGHT</small>
SEP 16 - PROVINE RAMS ★	OCT 28 - HOLMES COUNTY JAGUARS ★
SEP 23 - CALLAWAY CHARGERS ★	NOV 3 - CANTON TIGERS ★

GAMES WILL BEGIN AT 7:30 THROUGH THE END OF SEPTEMBER AND THEN WILL RETURN TO 7:00 IN OCTOBER.

★ = DIVISION GAME
HOME GAME
AWAY GAME

RIDGELANDTITANS.COM

Holmes Community College

412 W. Ridgeland Avenue • 601-856-5400 • www.holmescc.edu

Holmes Ridgeland Campus celebrates Surgical Technology Class of 2022



THE HOLMES COMMUNITY COLLEGE RIDGELAND CAMPUS HELD A PINNING CEREMONY FOR THE SURGICAL TECHNOLOGY CLASS OF 2022 ON JUNE 23 AT MADISON UNITED METHODIST CHURCH. PICTURED IS THE RIDGELAND CAMPUS SURGICAL TECHNOLOGY CLASS OF 2022 WITH (CENTER) INSTRUCTOR SHEA COLEMAN. THEY ARE (LEFT TO RIGHT) KARA PATTERSON OF RICHLAND, SHANIA GREEN OF JACKSON, CRYSTAL MERTEL OF BRANDON, ELIZABETH PRIMEAUX OF YAZOO COUNTY, RACHEL LANDRUM OF RIDGELAND AND MADISON CARPENTER OF MADISON.

Holmes Ridgeland Campus holds practical nursing pinning ceremony



THE HOLMES COMMUNITY COLLEGE RIDGELAND CAMPUS HELD A PINNING CEREMONY FOR THE PRACTICAL NURSING CLASS OF 2022 ON JUNE 30 AT BROADMOOR BAPTIST CHURCH IN MADISON. SIXTEEN STUDENTS WERE HONORED. PICTURED IS THE HOLMES COMMUNITY COLLEGE RIDGELAND CAMPUS PRACTICAL NURSING CLASS OF 2022 WITH INSTRUCTORS (FAR LEFT) DR. LAKESIA SUTTON AND (FAR RIGHT) HEATHER ROBERTS. THEY ARE (FRONT ROW, LEFT TO RIGHT) KAYLA NEAL OF HINDS COUNTY, KAYLEE BRINKLEY OF MADISON COUNTY, EBONY OWENS OF RANKIN COUNTY, SARAH GRAY OF LEAKE COUNTY, JANEISHA SIMPSON OF HOLMES COUNTY, JOANNA FRAZIER OF RANKIN COUNTY, (MIDDLE ROW, LEFT TO RIGHT) ALEXANDRIA WALSH OF RANKIN COUNTY, JAKIYAH TURNER OF HINDS COUNTY, CHASITY KING OF YAZOO COUNTY, MARY VIRGINIA AULTMAN OF OKTIBBEHA COUNTY, TIFFANY DAVIS OF WASHINGTON COUNTY, (BACK ROW, LEFT TO RIGHT) CHELSEA SMITH OF CARTHAGE, BREANNA ODIE OF COVINGTON COUNTY, KRISTINA HORTON OF CARROLL COUNTY, LOIS BROWN OF HINDS COUNTY AND HANNAH WILLIAMS OF YAZOO COUNTY.



By Kristen Hillman, Ridgeland Library Branch Manager

The Ridgeland Library is really looking forward to the return of our library comic-con, RidCon! Happening on Saturday, October 22 from 9am to 5pm, there will be vendors, cosplay contests, panels, tabletop gaming tournaments, giveaways, and other special events all day! Stay tuned-in to our website mclsms.org and our MCLS Libraries Facebook and Twitter for more information coming soon!

SEPTEMBER



Computer Hour

Every Wednesday, join us for Computer Hour to receive one-on-one assistance with basic computer usage and your questions about computer-related topics, including Microsoft Office, setting up an email address, applying for a job online, and more. Come with your own questions and let us assist you! Computer hour is every Wednesday morning from 10:30 a.m. - 11:30 a.m. and afternoon from 3:30 p.m. - 4:30 p.m. in our new computer space. Come see the changes we have made to our Computer Center at your Ridgeland Library! Computers for teens (ages 12-18) available in our new Club Teen space at the library.

Madison County Mystery Readers

Join us September 13 at 10:30 a.m. - 12 p.m. for the monthly meeting of the Madison County Mystery Readers. Interested in joining Mystery Readers? It's as easy as picking a mystery book, reading it, and preparing to talk about it at our next meeting. From cozy mysteries featuring amateur sleuths to brutal police procedurals, there is bound to be something for you or another mystery reader in your life at our Mystery Readers Book Club.

Dewey Decimators Non-Fiction Book Club

We also have a book club for non-fiction and auto/biography readers, the Dewey Decimators Non-Fiction Book Club, that meets every last Tuesday of the month at 11:00 a.m. Bring a brown-bag for lunch and join us as we talk our favorite non-fiction reads!

Get Crafty

Every 4th Tuesday of the month at 4:30 p.m. we host Get Crafty, a DIY and Craft group for adults 18+. Families are welcome to attend together as long as children are supervised well. This month we explore the joy of macramé and make a plant hanger using macramé techniques, cord, and wooden rings. Don't miss this fun, hands-on how-to!

Y'all Vote

September 27th at 4 p.m., join us for a special program with a representative speaker on behalf of Secretary of State Michael Watson. Y'all Vote! is a program just in time for Voter Registration Day that shows the importance of voting in your local and state elections. Don't wait around, y'all! Let's get registered to vote!

OCTOBER

Paranormal Investigator Brian Riley

Feeling extra spooky this October? Brian Riley, paranormal investigator, will be with us for a special paranormal program on Tuesday, October 18th. Learn about paranormal investigations and afterwards tour the Ridgeland Library for our very own paranormal investigation. We will learn about the tools of the ghost-hunting trade and may introduce you to a few of our permanent ghostly residents here at the library.



RidCon

Saturday, October 22nd, 9 a.m. to 5 p.m., don't miss RidCon, our annual library comic-con. Featuring vendors, panels, tabletop gaming tournaments, cosplay contests, prizes, and so much more – it is the Ridgeland Library's comic-con back again!

Fall Book Sale

The Friends of the Ridgeland Library will host their Fall Book Sale from October 27-29th! Check the library regular for schedule updates, including Bag Day! Volunteers wanted for the book sale! Interested? Come by the library and fill out an application! Volunteers must be 16 years and older.

NOVEMBER

Dia de los Muertos @ la Biblioteca! (Day of the Dead at the Library!)

Bienvenidos to your library and join us for Day of the Dead Celebrations starting at 4:30 p.m. on Tuesday Nov. 1st. We will read stories, sing songs, and enjoy some festive Dia de los Muertos sweets.

Tech Take Apart

We will break apart some old tech gadgets and make new creations on Tuesday, November 8th at 4:00 p.m.

Thanksgiving Day

The Library will be closed Thursday, November 24 for Thanksgiving Day. We are thankful for our patrons!

Potluck Contest

Put your cooking skills to the test just in time for Thanksgiving! Join our potluck contest and see if your dish wins the Golden Whisk Trophy this year for best potluck dish! Tuesday, November 22, starting at 4:30 p.m.

Everyone
Welcome
Individuality Embraced Here



Chamber of Commerce

Ridgeland Chamber Launches Guardian Angel Project

To celebrate National Law Enforcement Appreciation Week this year, Ridgeland Chamber of Commerce members adopted all 66 Ridgeland Chamber police officers, including Titus the canine officer, and presented each officer with a life-saving Guardian Angel device as well as a gold Guardian Angel lapel pin.

“A Guardian Angel clips onto the shoulder of an officer’s uniform and provides super bright light which adds warning power that an officer is standing close to the roadway,” said Linda Bynum, Ridgeland

Chamber of Commerce Executive Director. “The device even allows the officer to be able to use both hands while conducting a vehicle search. Law enforcement personnel across the country say that the Guardian Angel device is the best piece of law enforcement equipment available and a must have piece of safety gear that every officer should have, especially those working at night. Guardian Angels save lives.”

Three special ceremonies were held at the Ridgeland Police Department uniting Ridgeland

Police Officers with their Chamber member Guardian Angels.

“Day after day, our Men and Women in Blue put on their badge and carry out their sworn duty to protect and to serve. They are our Guardian Angels,” Bynum added. “And now, in these uncertain times, our officers each have a Guardian Angel of their own. What a wonderful way to let our officers know how much they are appreciated and how much they mean to our City,” Bynum said.



MARK PETRO, COMMUNITY BANK WITH OFFICER BEN JOHNSON AND CANINE OFFICER TITUS.



JAMIE LAKE, BANKPLUS AND ASSISTANT POLICE CHIEF ERIC REDD (RETIRED)



CARLA PALMER, CPA REALTY, LLC WITH ASSISTANT CHIEF TONY WILLRIDGE.



DEBRA ERWIN, INTERSTATE ALL BATTERY CENTER WITH OFFICER JONATHAN WOLFE.



TIM MAGANDY, ROBOT COUPE USA WITH DETECTIVE MIKE MAGAHEY.



RICHARD SHAPLEY, ELY'S RESTAURANT & BAR WITH OFFICER SIDNEY HUGHES



2022 RIDGELAND CHAMBER PRESIDENT RAY BALENTINE, MICHAEL BAKER INTERNATIONAL AND RIDGELAND POLICE CHIEF BRIAN MYERS.



CECIL HARPER, HARPER, RAINS, KNIGHT & COMPANY, P.A. WITH DETECTIVE ERIC PEACOCK.

CHAMBER OF COMMERCE



BOB TURNER, TURNER INSURANCE & FINANCIAL SERVICES WITH SERGEANT KELLY CHAPIN.



DAVID MORSE, CARSHOP, INC. WITH DETECTIVE ERIN BOYD.



SHELIA CHEEKS AND TRIZELL HARDIN, TRUSTMARK NATIONAL BANK WITH OFFICER LACHONDRA WILLIAMS.



THE JEFF SPEED FAMILY, SPEED COMMERCIAL REAL ESTATE, LLC WITH OFFICER ALONZO JONES



DAVID RUSHING, JOE T'S WINES & SPIRITS AND SERGEANT LUKE NEAL.

Ridgeland Chamber Seeks Junior Diplomat Leadership Applicants

Area high school juniors and seniors are invited to apply to become part of the Ridgeland Chamber of Commerce's 2022-2023 Junior Diplomat Leadership Program.

Students residing in Ridgeland, who attend Ridgeland High School, St. Andrew's Episcopal School, Jackson Academy, St. Joseph Catholic School, Madison Ridgeland Academy and Jackson Prep are invited to submit applications by the August 26th deadline.

"The purpose of the Junior Diplomat Leadership program is to instill in students a well-rounded appreciation of community service and introduce them to members of the business community," said Linda Bynum, Executive Director of the Ridgeland Chamber of Commerce.

Diplomats Allison DeWeese of Holmes Community College and Jim Lowery of Pear Orchard Business Center serve as Junior Diplomat co-advisors.

The Junior Diplomats meet the first Tuesday of every month at Chamber member businesses and participate in many City and Chamber events, including the Mayor's Prayer Breakfast, TOP Soccer, Trunk or Treat, HOOPS

Basketball, Mayor's Wellness Walk, the Christmas Tree Lighting, Sr. Adult Valentine's Luncheon, the Natchez Trace Century Ride, Easter Egg Hunt and the Ridgeland Fine Arts Festival.

At the end of the school year, the Chamber awards a Junior Diplomat of the Year scholarship and a Spirit of Junior Diplomat award which are applied to the college or university of the recipients' choice.

Junior Diplomat applications are available at the counselor's office of each participating school, the Chamber office located at 754 S. Pear Orchard Road and online at www.ridgelandchamber.com.

"The Junior Diplomat Leadership Program is designed for students who have every potential of becoming tomorrow's leaders," Bynum said. "One of the greatest aspects about the program is that our Junior Diplomats have gotten to know others with the same interests and goals. They have become better acquainted with their community and they are realizing the importance of giving back to the community."

For more information on the Chamber's Junior Diplomat Leadership Program, call the Chamber office at 601-991-9996.

Business After Hours & Events

SEPTEMBER 15

Business After Hours
Northpark
1200 E. County Line Road
5 – 7 p.m.

OCTOBER 6

Ridgeland Chamber Fall Golf Classic
Lake Caroline Golf Club
Registration/Lunch – 11:30 a.m.
Shotgun Start – 1:00 p.m.

NOVEMBER 10

Business After Hours
Embassy Suites
200 Township Place
5 – 7 p.m.

NOVEMBER 26

Small Business Saturday

DECEMBER 6

Mayor's Prayer Breakfast
Colonial Heights Baptist Church
444 Northpark Drive
7 a.m. – Breakfast Buffet
7:30 a.m. - Program

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
Brian Myers
Chief of Police
brian.myers@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..... 601-506-5913
- 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, Polly Hammett, Claire Jackson,
Phyllis Parker, Kenya Rachal, Lea Anne Stacy

COMMUNITY AWARENESS COMMITTEE

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

HISTORICAL COMMITTEE

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

CONTRACTORS BOARD OF ADJUSTMENT AND APPEALS

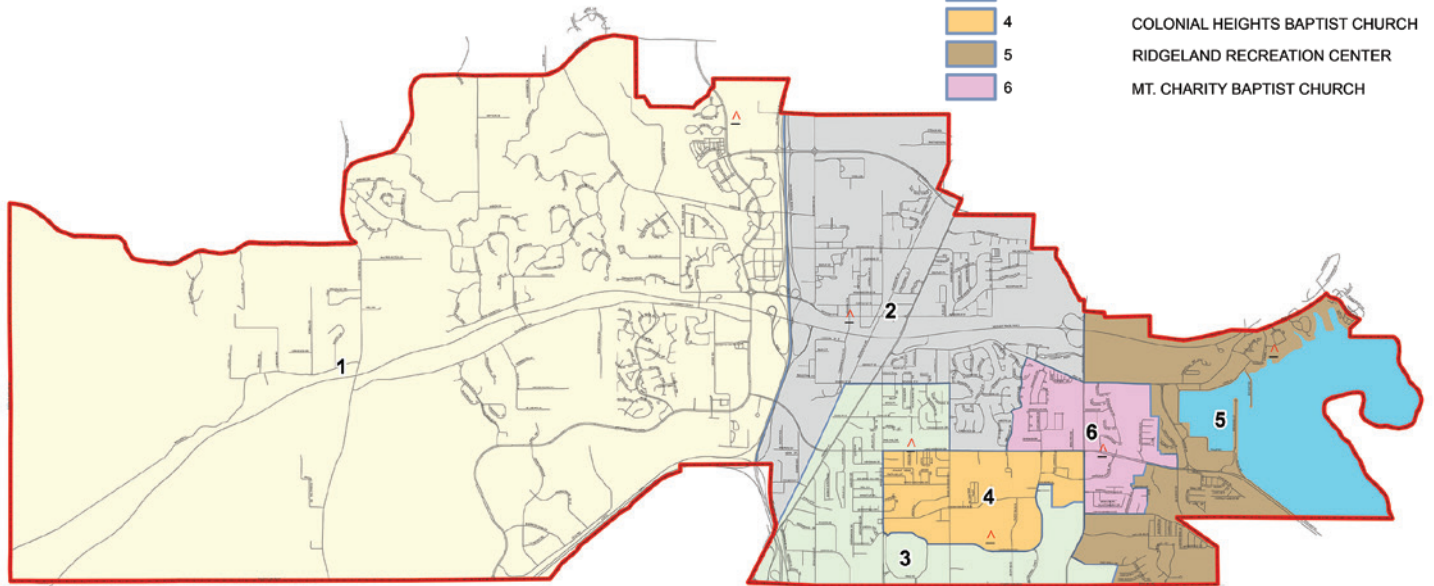
Quarterly meetings - 4 p.m.
Lantz Kuykendall - Chairman
Terry Evans, David Pursell, Steve Rimmer, Clay Sutherland, Keith West

ZONING BOARD

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

Ridgeland Aldermen

To learn more about your elected representatives, go to www.ridgelandms.org/electedofficials/.



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



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 601-454-0353
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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