

February 2, 2012 – Ridgefield Events

Downtown stores will be celebrating **First Friday**, and I expect it will be hopping. Here are a few of the specials you will find as you stroll through town:

+++

Ridgefield Floral will have a raffle to win a beautiful vase of a **dozen long stem red roses** surrounded by a fluffy white cloud of baby's breath, tied with a red and white bow of hearts to give to your sweetheart on Valentine's Day. Information: 887-4054.

+++

Alcove Art Gallery has a **red carnation** for everyone who visits the gallery. The theme this month is "A Passion for Art," and the refreshments on First Friday will concentrate on chocolate items – candy, cookies, you name it. They are offering a **5% discount** on all purchases that evening, so if you've seen a special item that you'd like, better get there early so you don't miss out. Information: 727-3088

+++

The **Artisan Studio** has a whole new array of **birdhouses** – it makes you feel good inside just to look at them. Stop by to check them out – they're very reasonably priced, and quite unique. Information: 904-6019

+++

Pioneer Street cafe is now offering some made-from-scratch **gluten-free bakery items!** Also don't forget to make your reservation now for Valentine's Day! Information: 887-8001

Bond information:

We'll be waving signs on February 13 and 14 to ask people to vote for the school bond. There will be a morning shift from 7:00 to 8:30 and an afternoon shift from 4:30 to 6:00. The two locations will be:

1. Ridgefield, **Pioneer Street and I-5**, either across the street from the Chevron (afternoons) or on the sidewalk in front of the empty lot east of the Chevron (mornings). Please don't park in the Chevron lot. You can park in the cul-de-sac to the east of the gas station, in the parking lot of the Heron Gate building to the west, or on the road in the industrial park.

2. **Fairgrounds exit**, 179th and I-5. We'll be waving signs near the northbound off ramp in the afternoon, and the southbound onramp in the morning. The best place to park is Jollie's, as far north in their parking lot and out of the way as possible.

We need as many warm bodies to wave a sign as possible: kids, parents, teachers, spouses, neighbors, and anyone else we can get to help (but please don't bring any dogs or small children that might step into traffic). We will have all the signs there for people to wave, we just need people to show up.

The schedule:

February 13th morning 179th / afternoon Ridgefield

February 14th morning Ridgefield / afternoon 179th

Remember to dress in WARM, WATERPROOF, and BRIGHT clothing!

Reminder: VOTE EARLY

Clark County Fire & Rescue was notified by FEMA on Monday January 23rd that we have been awarded an **Assistance to Firefighters Grant (AFG)** in the amount of \$164,832 to replace about 25,000 feet of fire hose and replace our older outdated fire nozzles. Some of our nozzles are over 20 years old and technology has changed dramatically over the years. The cost of just one nozzle is nearly \$900 and we typically carry 6-8 on each engine. The cost of fire hose ranges from \$2.50 to more than \$8.00 per foot depending on the size. Information: 887-4609

Congratulations to the **Ridgefield High School Jazz Band I** for their excellent showing in the 50th Clark College Jazz Festival! Ridgefield received three awards, winning **first place** in the A Division for Jazz Ensemble. Individual musicians, senior Vinny Sepe on the alto sax, and juniors Jennifer Baird on the trombone and Dean Millett on bass received **certificates for outstanding musicianship**. Jazz Band II was asked to return for the finals competition, but could not perform due to a schedule conflict. This speaks highly of our schools – the competition drew musicians from as far away as Seattle.

A note from Tevis Laspa:

Friends, neighbors, Ridgefieldites,

It is time to make sure all of your families **VOTE**.

I hand carried ballots to my kids, waited for them to vote, and mailed the ballots myself. We need every vote to take the step to improve our schools.

Please take the time to vote today if you have not yet, look to your kids and help them get that ballot in the mail.

Thanks

Tevis Laspa

Ashley Lenz won the Name the Owl contest at **Alcove Art Gallery** with the name “**Ember**”, and wins the framed photograph of the owl. Adrian Peterson, the photographer who exhibits at the gallery, took the picture, and was pleased to read all the clever names that were suggested. Congratulations Ashley!

Local Alliance for Mastering Pain meets Tuesdays at 2 pm at the **Ridgefield Community Methodist Church**, 1410 Hillhurst Street. It is a support group to help improve the quality of life for those who suffer from chronic pain. Information: 887-0206.

I wanted to bring you up to date on the **Atkeson fire**. There was such an out pouring of offers of help – it speaks well of our community. A **bank account at First Independent** has been established to help the Atkesons get back on their feet, and several of you have already donated money. You can donate at any branch of the bank, ask for the Atkeson Family Fund. We will only keep the account open through February so please make your donation as soon as possible. Information: 699-4276

Congratulations to **John White**, who won first place in the 220-pound weight class at the Clark County Wrestling Tournament in January. John will be wrestling for Ridgefield again next year on a team that has lots of potential. Only two men graduated, so most of the team will be experienced.

Note from David Taylor to last year’s participants at the **Ridgefield Heron Garden**:

“It’s time to start planning for the operation of the community garden for the coming season. I have received requests from several people who are interested in upgrading to

larger plots and also some who would like to secure a plot in the garden. I have e-mail addresses from those people that I will pass on to the new committee.

“Please let me know as to your interest in working on the committee and availability for a meeting in the morning, afternoon, or after work. We will arrange something that works. I would like to pass the operational responsibility to a new committee this year. I need to hear from those interested and set a time to meet.”

The community garden is at 5th and Sargent, and grew a big variety of vegetables and flowers last summer.

David Taylor davidptaylor@comcast.net

Stand-Up Comedy - An evening of honest comedy at the **Old Liberty Theater** featuring: Ian Karmel- From IFC's "Portlandia" & two times winner of Portland's Funniest. Also sharing the stage will be: Sean Jordan, Anthony Lopez, and Tynan Delong. Stand-Up Comedy is hosted by Todd Armstrong. It's Saturday, February 4, 7:30 pm Admission is \$8 in advance or \$10 at the door. This show is for ages 21 and over. Information: 601-7549.

News from the Ridgefield School District:

Did you know **View Ridge** students **study fossils to learn how scientists make discoveries?**

Students at View Ridge Middle School learn how scientific discoveries develop from scientists cooperating and collaborating rather than working in isolation. 7th graders study fossils in groups, a collegiate-level science activity designed to demonstrate the power of learning what's happened before, and working together to figure out what comes next.

"When people think of a scientist working on a project, they often imagine this person working all by himself or herself in a desolate lab somewhere," said Matthew Whitton, a teacher at View Ridge Middle School who currently teaches science and math. "This image couldn't be more wrong – science is both collaborative and cumulative."

Whitton came across his fossil hunt activity from the University of Indiana where college students work in groups to try to make sense of fossils. Each group of students receives a packet containing pieces of paper cut into bones representing the fossil of an animal. Taking turns, each member of the group pulls out a certain number of bones at random, and places them on a desk. All of the students in the group move the bones around, trying to identify the animal.

Each student's turn represents a day on an archaeological dig. "Even though each group has the same bones in the envelope, which ones each student pulls out affects how the group looks at the entire skeleton," says Whitton. "Each time I do this activity, I see a new creature in the bones that the groups are working with."

This first exercise demonstrates the value of collaboration as the students in the group bounce ideas off of each other in an effort to identify the fossil. After a few "days" of studying new bones, Whitton encourages the groups to tour the room, looking at other groups' progress in an effort to shed light on their own study.

The learning target is to see the nature of science - it's cumulative, collaborative and we don't always have the whole picture and must work together and with the work of others before us. Through this activity, Whitton's students see the value of other opinions, as well as the importance of learning about studies that have come before. "Science isn't about one person's idea, it's about our ideas as a group," said Whitton. "It's about working together to develop a closer view of the truth."

Restorative Yoga is held Mondays from 6 to 7:15 pm at **Messiah Lutheran's north county campus** at the Ridgefield junction, 2 South 56th Place, suite 203. Cost is a food donation for the local food bank, and beginners are welcome. Information: 574-7081.

Restoration Events at Ridgefield National Wildlife Refuge

9 am – 12:30 pm. Join RNWR for volunteer work days in the wild and beautiful setting of the refuge. Registration is encouraged but not required. Wear waterproof footwear, bring gloves, and dress for the weather. Light refreshments will be provided. Events will be on:

Saturday, Feb. 4 – Tree planting at Carty Unity

Wednesday, Feb. 8 – Tree planting/repair for the oak and riparian habitats. In Carty Unit.

Saturday, Feb. 18 – Tree planting at River S Unit

Wednesday, Feb. 22 – Tree planting/repair at Carty Unit

Saturday, Feb. 25 – Tree planting at Pierce Refuge

More information: Matthew.Grimley@clark.wa.gov

LOOKING AHEAD

Anyone can catch your eye, but it takes someone special to catch your heart! **Metro Wine Bar & Bistro** is a perfect place to show that someone special just what they mean to you. Or join their lonely hearts club table and meet new friends! Come one or come all and join us for a Valentine's night to remember.

Metro Wine Bar and Bistro is offering a **special dinner** February 12th through the 16th. Cost is \$24.99 and includes champagne, an appetizer, dinner and dessert. For an additional fee of \$150 per couple, Excalibur Limousine will be happy to arrange and provide your transportation.

Metro Wine Bar & Bistro looks forward to seeing you and ours for our Valentine's Day Dinner. Please call us at [887-8888](tel:887-8888) to make your reservations

Sarah Scott will teach a **Dancing for Birth class** at **4Rivers Yoga**, 208-A Pioneer Street, for a five-week session starting February 13th. Classes will run on Monday nights from 6:30 to 7:30. This class is a childbirth education/support/fitness class where you learn gentle, fun dance moves that can help facilitate birth. Please get the word out to anyone you know who is expecting. Only \$30 for the 5-week session! For more info or to sign up, contact Sarah at 887-3220 or email lovethepnw@gmail.com. www.4riversyoga.com

Ridgefield High School Cheer is having a **rummage sale** at the school on February 11 from 9 am to 4 pm. You can drop off donations at the RHS barn (located in back of school by the soccer fields and the water tower) between 10 am and 3 pm. Information: 619-1320.

The **River City Ramblers** will be at **Old Liberty Theater** on Saturday, February 11 at 7:30 pm. They play bright, full, folk country rock. Admission is \$15, and the show is for ages 21 and older. Information: www.rivercityramblers.com, 601-7549.

The **Ridgefield library** is starting an informal **chess club** for all ages. There's a strong correlation between playing chess and improving reading skills, especially for struggling students. Please see (<http://www.chessforstudents.com/research/study.asp>). The first meeting of this new group is Saturday February 25 from 10 a.m. until noon. If anyone has a chess set they would like to donate to the library please drop it by. It will be well-used and appreciated. Information: 887-8281