

# THE RIDGEFIELD PRESS PEOPLE

Thursday, Jan. 8, 2009

*For this premiere edition of Ridgefield Voices, we've selected three very different anecdotes that hint at the diversity of life in our town.*

## **Flying Milk Bone on High Ridge Avenue**

"Toss that dog a bone" took on new meaning at 4 p.m. on Dec. 15. My wife Katie and I were walking Kasha, our two-year-old Labrador retriever and part-time ambassador for Guiding Eyes for the Blind along High Ridge Avenue toward St. Mary's.

All of a sudden we heard a thump near us. Katie said, "What was that?"

And my silent self pondered, "Hmm. Probably kids."

From out of the blue, well technically out of a passing vehicle, a large yellow-freckled Milk Bone had been vigorously but joyfully tossed through the front-passenger window, landing some five feet away from us.

While Katie questioned, I turned and saw a pickup truck ever so slowly driving past with the passenger-side window down and the driver looking in his rearview mirror to check our reaction. As he drove off, he gave a hearty wave.

I waved back and I picked up the Milk Bone while Kasha started to drool in anticipation. "That man just tossed us a bone, literally!"

"Imagine that," my wife said, "a random act of kindness."

"Yeah" I replied, "Only in Ridgefield." — Charles R. Scott

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## *Ridgefield Voices*

by David Barnhizer



## **Raising our voices**

Overheard while exiting the auditorium at the high school after the Ridgefield Symphony Orchestra concert on Dec. 6, which featured an encore of Christmas carols by the orchestra and audience participation: "Now that's the way to sing Christmas carols — with a full symphony orchestra!" — Bill Kingston

## **Our wildlife habitat**

Recently we heard that the National Wildlife Federation designates properties such as ours as "Certified Wildlife Habitats" for having food (feeders), water (bird baths), cover (woods and brush piles), and places to raise young (bird houses). We now feel more comfortable about our untypical, woods-filled property, with its brush piles, scattered garden areas, 14 bird feeders, and numerous baths.

How wild do we want the life on our property to become? We're contemplating that one. One night not long ago, the motion-sensing light outside the door on our second-story-level back deck (up 14 steps from the driveway) went on, and I went to see what had activated it. There, much to my dismay, rooting in a flower pot, five feet from where I stood, was a full-grown (very large!) black bear. I think that's wild enough! — Richard Barnes (and Judy Gaugler)

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Each author whose anecdote is published in "Ridgefield Voices" may pick up a free bottle of wine at Liberta's Spirit Shoppe (on Main Street opposite Town Hall) by presenting