



The Pike

Newsletter of the Town of Pike Road • www.pikeroad.us • Fall/Winter 2010

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- Town Council.....12/13
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Town of Pike Road

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Welcome Home!



Lifting our Vision, Seeing with New Eyes

October 21, 2010 was a momentous day for the Town of Pike Road, as we celebrated the grand opening of our new town hall facility at the Pike Road Station on Vaughn Road. As the morning's events drew to a close, Rev. John Ed Mathison spoke to those gathered after the official ribbon-cutting for lunch. He told the story of a woman who was famous for training guide dogs for the visually impaired. When asked what was the most difficult aspect of training a dog to be the eyes for a person, this trainer replied that it was teaching a dog to lift its vision from its own eye level to the eye level of a person. Rev. Mathison challenged the leadership and citizens of the Town of Pike Road to "lift their vision" in order to create a future that reaches beyond what is expected or even thought possible. A similar thought comes from the French writer Marcel Proust, who observed, "The real voyage of discovery consists not in seeking new landscapes, but in having new eyes." The people of the Town of Pike Road have been practicing both these habits for generations, and it is the lifted vision and new eyes that have allowed us to accomplish all we have in our 13 years as a municipality. A handful of people with lifted vision saw in the 1990's that incorporating would give us the ability to determine the future of this place. New eyes were able to imagine a former supermarket becoming a welcoming new home for our town and the heart of Pike Road's first town center. As we prepare to begin a new year in this blessed place, let's continue to lift our vision to see beyond the ordinary and imagine with new eyes the best possible future we can build.

God bless,
Gordon Stone
Mayor, Town of Pike Road

Look inside for the story and photos of
the grand opening celebration!

Town Hall Christmas Tree Lighting December 5

The Town of Pike Road and its Neighborhood Leaders Program will host the annual Christmas Tree Lighting program on Sunday, December 5, 2010 at 5:00 p.m. The event will take place at the new town hall facility at 9575 Vaughn Rd.

In addition to the ceremonial lighting of the official town tree, the crowd will be asked to join in singing traditional Christmas carols and favorite songs. During this year's event, special children's music will be led by Marion Steindorff, a long-time resident of the Town of Pike Road and wife of Town Council Member Rob Steindorff.

Through the newly formed Neighborhood Leaders Program, a decorated ornament from each of the town's more than 30 neighborhoods will be displayed on the official Christmas tree.

Following the program, snacks and beverages will be available inside Town Hall, and atten-

dees will be invited to tour the facility.

Town leaders are asking attendees to bring one non-perishable food or hygiene item per person. The items will be donated to the food pantries of local churches to help the less fortunate in our area through the holiday season. More details on this effort can be found on page four.

"The annual Christmas tree lighting is one of the events that Town of Pike Road families look forward to year after year," said Mayor Gordon Stone. "It exemplifies the spirit of volunteerism and the importance of community to the people of this town."

Parking will be available in the Pike Road Station lot. The event is free, and the public is welcome to attend.



Pike Road Business Council

The latest project of the Pike Road Business Council is the first-ever Pike Road Business Directory, coming in the Spring of 2011!

For more information, call Liz Scroggins at 272-9883 or email BusinessCouncil@pikeroad.us

Pike Road Library Events

Read-A-Book Day (Saturday, December 11, 10:00 a.m.-Noon): Your Pike Road Branch Library will present a little something for all ages:

- A special story time and craft for preschoolers from Kathryn Jones
- A performance for school-age kids and grown-ups based on *Junie B., First Grader: Jingle Bells, Batman Smells!* starring MaryKathryn Samelson
- A holiday craft for school-age kids and adults led by Jean Kocher
- Live holiday music performed by Rebecca Samelson.
- Free snacks provided by the Pike Road Friends
- And, yes, the jolly old elf himself will be there, too!

December Story Times (Mondays at 4:15 p.m.):

December 6: *Toot & Puddle: I'll Be Home for Christmas* by Holly Hobbie; *The Night Before the Night Before Christmas* by Natasha Wing and Mike Lester.

December 13: *Froggy's Best Christmas* by Jonathan London and Frank Remkiewicz; *The Last Christmas Present* by Matt Novak
December 20: *Bless You, Santa* by Julia Sykes and Tim Warnes; *New Improved Santa* by Patricia Rae Wolff and Lynne Cravath

Awesome Book Club (ages 9 and up):

Wednesday, December 15, at 4:15 p.m. – *The Lost Hero*, the first book in the new *Heroes of Olympus* series by Rick Riordan



Above: Council member Betsy Atkins is sworn in by Mayor Gordon Stone while the other council members and her husband look on.

Town Hall Grand Opening

Local and statewide dignitaries joined Town of Pike Road residents, leaders and media October 21, 2010 for the grand opening of the new town hall facility, located at 9575 Vaughn Rd. Remarks were made by Mayor Gordon Stone, several members of the town council and others before the ribbon-cutting ceremony. Following the ceremony, a lunch was served to honored guests and tours of the facility were given. The celebration continued in the late afternoon with family-oriented games, free food, live music and displays of on-going town projects.

The timing of the grand opening and ribbon-cutting coincides with the thirteenth anniversary of the town's incorporation. On October 24, 1997, Judge Walker Hobbie issued the order which officially created the Town of Pike Road. Two weeks earlier, on October 10, the vote for incorporation took place at Peace Baptist Church. Of the 312 residents within the prospective town boundaries, 147 voted to incorporate while four voted against incorporation. October 24 is now celebrated annually as Founders Day.

*Right:
Local dignitaries prepare to cut the ribbon officially opening the new town hall facility.*



Atkins Joins Town Council

During their meeting November 8, the Pike Road Town Council voted unanimously to appoint Betsy Atkins, a long-time resident of the Town of Pike Road, to fill Senator-elect Dick Brewbaker's vacated council seat. Atkins is employed in the pharmaceutical industry and has received many awards for her professional achievements. A member of First Baptist Church Montgomery, she serves on the Children's Leadership Council. She is a member of the Montgomery Junior League and volunteers at Forest Avenue Academic Magnet School and Baldwin Arts and Academic Magnet School. She and her husband, Pat, have two children.

"We are delighted to welcome Betsy Atkins as the newest member of the Town of Pike Road's town council," said Mayor Gordon Stone. "Betsy exemplifies the spirit of hard work and commitment we prize in the Town of Pike Road, and we know she will continue the excellent efforts begun by her predecessor, Dick Brewbaker."

Hey, Look at Us! Contest



The first-ever “Hey, Look at Us!” haybale decorating contest took place in the Town of Pike Road in October. The contest was sponsored by the new Neighborhood Leaders Program, and neighborhoods were provided a round haybale, which residents decorated. The contest winners, shown at left, were announced at the Fall Family Fun Day October 31. The contest was featured on WSFA’s “County Road 12” segment.

Top: Merry Station, First Place

Middle: Farmington, Second Place

Bottom: Howellville, Third Place

Veterans Honored in November

The Town of Pike Road honored American veterans and current service men and women during the week of November 11, Veterans Day, by proclaiming the week Military Appreciation Week. At the town council meeting Monday, November 8, the council made the official proclamation and recognized veterans and service members in attendance. In addition, approximately 150 cards for local veterans were presented to the town leadership to be distributed at local veterans’ hospitals.

The cards, which carried messages of gratitude for the veterans’ selfless service, were made by Town of Pike Road residents and students from Macon-East Montgomery Academy. They were delivered to the Montgomery Veterans Administration facility on Tuesday, November 9, where they were distributed and shared with veterans at the Tuskegee hospital.

Town Clerk Charlene Rabren coordinated the card project, which is repeated on other special days throughout the year.

“We believe it is very important to show our appreciation for the sacrifices these men and women have made for every American, and we cannot do that often enough,” Rabren said. “The cards for veterans are a small way that the people of the Town of Pike Road can say thank you for all that has been done for us.”

Right: Pike Road Town Hall displayed 30 American flags in honor of Veterans Day.



Town of Pike Road Fall Family Fun Day

The Town of Pike Road hosted a Fall Family Fun Day Sunday, October 31 at the Bridlebrook Farms clubhouse on Bridlebrook Blvd. in the Town of Pike Road. The event was hosted in partnership with the Bridlebrook Farms Homeowners Association. Family-oriented activities included trunk and vehicle decorating contests, children’s costume contests, chili cook-off, games, hayrides and face painting.

During the Fall Family Fun Day, Mayor Gordon Stone announced the winners of the “Hey, Look at Us!” competition. “Hey, Look at Us!” was a project of the Pike Road Neighborhood Leaders program.

“These events were products of strong partnerships, a trademark of the Town of Pike Road. Because of these partnerships, we are pleased to be able to offer a safe, family-oriented events like Fall Family Fun Day throughout the year,” said Mayor Stone.

Fall Family Fun Day was sponsored by Cuco’s, Wal-Mart on Chantilly Parkway, Nancy’s Italian Ice, Subway at Pike Road Station, Papa John’s, Chappy’s Deli, Chili’s and Rave Motion Pictures.

Patriot Club Update

The October gathering of the Patriot Club took place at Brewer Memorial Church and included old-fashioned entertainment by Violet Darnell and Lou Dekle. In observance of Founder’s Week, a presentation was given describing life in the Pike Road area before the town was incorporated. The presentation also covered the history of incorporation and the work residents put into making a town that reflects the values that draw many people here.

The November meeting was held at Town Hall, and each attendee brought an appetizer from the Pike Road Volunteer Fire Department (PRVFD) Ladies Auxiliary Cookbook. Sales of the cookbooks benefit the PRVFD, and the books—which would make great gifts—are available for \$10 at Town Hall and PRVFD stations. The meal was followed by an informative presentation by Mayor Gordon Stone on the town’s planning process.

To be part of the Patriot Club, call Town Hall at 272-9883 and leave your name and email address.

“Think Outside the Can” this Christmas!

This Christmas season, the Town of Pike Road is sponsoring a “Think Outside the Can” food and hygiene drive and asking residents to donate items beginning December 5 at the annual Christmas tree lighting. Attendees are encouraged to bring one un-opened food or hygiene item per person. Items can be brought to Town Hall throughout the month of December. The items will be distributed to the food and necessities pantries of local churches to help meet the needs of the less fortunate in our area during the holiday season.

“Churches are approached daily by members of the community who are in need of more than just food,” said Town Clerk Charlene Rabren. “Often, people are in need of other necessities as well, like diapers, soap or toothpaste. The purpose of the ‘Think Outside the Can’ drive is to help our local churches assist those in our community who are in need.”

The following is a list of “outside the can” items that would be appropriate to share:

- Non-perishable food items: Don’t forget protein-rich foods like dried beans, canned meats and peanut butter!
- Hygiene items: Baby diapers, deodorant, toothpaste, shampoo, soap, and other basic necessities
- Please bring only un-opened containers!

Arbor Week 2011: Celebrate Trees!

The Town of Pike Road recognizes Arbor Week annually, and next year the week set aside to celebrate trees and their benefits to our community and planet is February 20-26, 2011. Arbor Day in the Town of Pike Road will be celebrated February 23 with festivities at the new Town Hall facility on Vaughn Road.

Among the activities planned for the week is the annual Arbor Day poster contest, which is open to all fifth graders. This year’s poster theme is “Trees are Terrific...In Cities and Towns!” Local fifth graders can submit their posters to the Town of Pike Road, and awards will be given on the local level before the posters are submitted to the state contest. The local deadline is February 4 at 5:00 p.m. (More details on the state poster contest can be found online at <http://www.aces.edu/counties/Calhoun/arborday/>.)

Arbor Day was first observed in April 1872 in Nebraska City, Nebraska. Within 50 years of that first celebration, every state in the United States had officially recognized the day. In Alabama, Governor Thomas Seay signed the state’s first Arbor Day proclamation in 1887. Since 1975, the last week in February has been celebrated as Arbor Week in Alabama.

For more information, call Town Hall at 272-9883.



Town of Pike Road

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