

The Pike

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Progress is Fueled by Dedicated Citizens

This October, the Town of Pike Road will celebrate 12 years as a municipality, and the town's story these past 12 years has been one of progress made by many loyal citizens striving toward common goals. Each edition of this newsletter highlights some of the achievements we have achieved, and this one is no exception. Our progress created a need for more space for town facilities, and many of those who made our current town hall a reality were involved in securing the new space on Vaughn Road. Others, including the town's exceptional planning commission members, were instrumental in envisioning the town centers plan, which will begin to take shape with our move to the new address. That plan will continue to unfold as the current town hall property is transformed into a cultural park complete with a new station for our great volunteer fire department. Out of all that is extraordinary about this place, the best characteristics are the shared vision of a brighter future and commitment to maintaining all that has made this place special in the past. These things require the dedication of proactive citizens, and that is not only our most valuable resource, but one which we are blessed to have in abundance. Thank you for all you do!

God bless,
Gordon Stone
 Mayor, Town of Pike Road

Visit us on the Web!
www.pikeroad.us

New Town Hall Drawing Near, Plans Made for Current Site

With the removal of furnishings expected to be complete by mid-September, the Town of Pike Road's new home will soon be ready for renovation work to begin. Infinity Architecture is working with the town on the design for the interior retrofitting of the space, and bidding for the construction will begin as soon as the space is empty.

"Access to the building this fall would put us in our new facilities by spring of 2010," said Pike Road Planning Director Buddy Garland.

Formerly the home of Dominic's market in the Pike Road Station Shopping Center, the space will provide ample room for town offices as well as meeting facilities. The relocation of Town Hall is a step toward the development of the first "town center" in Pike Road. Envisioned as a pedestrian friendly zone, the town center is within a half mile of approximately 800 homes. To help meet the everyday needs of those Pike Road residents, the center will soon have two new tenants, one of which is a restaurant and the other an investment management office. Currently, the center is also home to Crockmier's restaurant, Hissy Fits boutique, an ABC

store, the Pike Road library and Nails Paradise.

The Town of Pike Road already has plans to create a cultural park at the site of the current Town Hall, with the Pike Road Volunteer Fire Department slated as one of the site's future occupants. An additional fire station at the corner of Pike and Meriwether Roads will result in lower ISO ratings for area residents and, in turn, a higher level of fire and rescue service and lower homeowners insurance premiums.



The new home of Pike Road Town Hall on Vaughn Road

Planning Commission Welcomes New Member

One new appointment and two re-appointments to the Town of Pike Road Planning Commission were made recently. Brien Cornett is the commission's newest member, and Sandy Cowen and Ty Glassford will each serve another term. New commission terms begin October 1.

"I am inspired by the commitment these individuals have made to shaping the future of this town," said Mayor Gordon Stone. "We all owe a great deal to all our commissioners, past and present, for the part they have played in making the Pike Road vision a reality."

Other members of the planning commission are Chris Dunn, chairman, Mike Bunce, Leslie Cooper and Pat Harris. Pike Road Planning Director Buddy Garland says the commission's agenda this year will likely include discussion of continuing development, approval of new development plans, and the ongoing work to update the town's Smart Code zoning ordinance. The town's conventional code was recently updated.

The Planning Commission meets the second Monday of each month at 6:00 p.m. at Town Hall. Meetings are open to the public. For more information, contact Town Hall at 272-9883.

Battleground at the Waters

Join your friends October 26 from 1:30 to 6:00 p.m. at Battleground 2009 at the Waters in Pike Road. Battleground 2009 is a Christian battle of the bands and worship gathering being sponsored by 5 Stone Ministries. A drawing will be held for MercyMe concert tickets. Admission is free. For more information, contact Garrett Cook at 334-328-0050, or email Info@5stoneministries.org.

Recycling Reminders

Since featuring Pike Road's recycling program in the last few editions of *The Pike*, the folks at Town Hall have been pleasantly surprised by how many of our neighbors are making use of the free recycling the Town provides. As you utilize this valuable service, please remember to be a tidy patriot and observe the following "recycling etiquette":

- **Flatten cardboard boxes**
- **Rinse aluminum cans**
- **Stack and tie newspapers or put them in a paper bag**

Please help us continue this service by doing your part to keep the recycling area clean.

Census 2010: 100% Goal for Town of Pike Road

The Town of Pike Road and the State of Alabama are asking all residents to participate in the 2010 Census, and the stakes for both the town and state are high. A recently released report on the percentages of U.S. households that returned census questionnaires in 2000 showed an average state-wide response rate of 67 percent. Alabama's rate was shy of the national average at 61 percent. A "short" count has an adverse affect on everyone, as Census data is used to determine how more than \$400 billion per year in federal and state funding is allocated to communities for neighborhood improvements, public health, education, transportation and much more. That equates to more than \$4 trillion over a ten-year period. The census also affects a state's voice in congress; Census figures are used to apportion House seats based on population density. Census data used by local, state and national governments is crucial to many planning decisions, such as where to provide services for the elderly, where to build new roads and schools, or where to locate job training centers.



The Census is a count of everyone living in the United States which takes place every ten years. It is mandated by the U.S. Constitution and citizen participation is required by law. The form households will receive in the mail is designed to be completed in less than ten minutes and Federal law protects any personal information shared. The Census Bureau will mail or deliver questionnaires to homes in March 2010. A second form will be sent to households that do not respond to the initial questionnaire. Households that do not respond to the second mailer will be called or visited by a Census worker, and official Census workers will be identifiable by a badge and bag.

In the Town of Pike Road, the Census is a critical step toward building a municipal school district and providing more quality-of-life improvements for our citizens. Our numbers will help tell our story – that we are a growing group of dedicated citizens who want to continue to build on our history as an exceptional place. The town's future is truly in our hands. Meeting our goal of 100 percent participation will put us much closer to providing our children with the high quality, locally led education alternative so many have worked toward for years. **Mark your calendars for March 2010, watch your mailbox and return your completed Census form so we can make the dreams a reality!**

Pike Road Plans Visit to P.K. Yonge School

October 7 and 8, a group of interested Pike Road residents will travel to Gainesville, Florida, to observe how the P.K. Yonge School operates. P.K. Yonge is a professional development school (PDS), the educational model on which the future Pike Road Education System for Excellence in Teaching (PRESET) is based. Following the April education summit at which three educators from P.K. Yonge presented, town and school committee leaders felt it would be beneficial for those who are involved in PRESET's planning to see the model school firsthand. The goal of the trip is to gain a better understanding of how a PDS functions and to bring back ideas for use in Pike Road.

The PDS model was originally developed in the 1980s and is in widespread use throughout the United States today. Similar to a laboratory school, a PDS places expert educators alongside teachers-in-training, harnessing the energy of this interaction and utilizing the best teaching methods within classrooms. After much research, members of the Town of Pike Road's school committee chose the PDS model for PRESET and believe that PDS is the best framework available to enhance student achievement, achieve teaching mastery and to collaborate effectively in the K-20 education environment. They also believe it provides the best framework for teaching and learning in a consistently challenging technological and global environment in which our children will live and work.

To learn more about PRESET or the PDS model, visit the town's website at www.pikeroad.us. The P.K. Yonge School can also be found online at www.pky.ufl.edu.

For more information about the P.K. Yonge trip, please contact Pike Road Town Hall at 272-9883.

Natural Trail Update

With plans for the first phase completed and documentation filed with the U.S. Department of Transportation (DOT), the Town of Pike Road awaits word on the availability of funding before beginning construction on the Pike Road Natural Trail. When funding is secured, hopefully this fall, the town will be able to move forward with the bidding process. Once commenced, construction of the first phase of the trail system should take approximately four months.



A long-term project in its entirety, the trail system will eventually encircle the town, linking population centers, but will evolve as the town continues to grow. The trail master plan, recently revised by Auburn University graduate student Mark Curry, will serve as a guide throughout the process. Engineering for this phase of the trail was led by Cathy Gerachis and Max Vaughn of Goodwyn, Mills and Cawood, Inc.

New Park Planned for Rolling Hills

The Town of Pike Road recently finalized the purchase of a ten-acre parcel at intersection of Trotman Road and Rolling Hills Boulevard in the recently annexed Rolling Hills community. Soon, the property will begin the transformation from pasture to park and become an integral component of the park and multi-purpose trail system planned for the Town of Pike Road. The Rolling Hills Park will actually serve as a bookend to the expansive Pike Road trail system and tie into the four miles of envisioned trails that will cross Catoma Creek and encircle the mitigation area on the north side of Trotman Road.

The park itself will feature walking paths surrounding a newly landscaped and maintained pond area with a large pavilion ideal for neighborhood gatherings. Future plans include the addition of a playground and courts for basketball and tennis, as well as a softball field.

According to Town of Pike Road Planning Director Buddy Garland, the Rolling Hills park is a "progressive growth community project." Mr. Garland added that initial clean-up has begun at the site, and while the specific schedule for structure construction is still in the works, planning is underway. "The town is looking forward to planning with the community in the development and long-term operation of the park," Mr. Garland said.

For more information or to find out how you can get involved, contact Pike Road Town Hall at 272-9883.

Business Buzz

The Town of Pike Road is pleased to share the following business news:

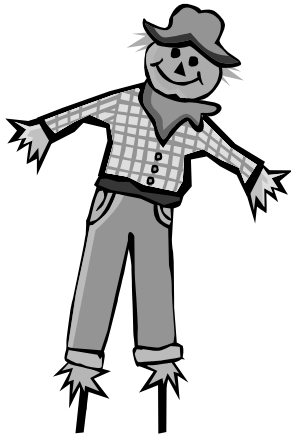
- Maverick's Truck Stop on Highway 231 will soon open in the former Merle's location. New owners and town leaders are excited about the renovated truck facilities, fuel and service offerings and restaurant serving home-style cooking.
- A new auto auction facility is being developed near the site of the former auction on Highway 231. Owned by Pike Road resident Rex Ingram, the business is expected to begin operation in early 2010.

Calling all Neighborhoods: Be Part of Trunk-or-Treat!

The Town of Pike Road will host its annual Trunk-or-Treat on Thursday, October 29 from 5:30 to 8:30 p.m. at Town Hall on Pike Road.

As this popular event continues to grow each year, ***the town is seeking help from neighborhoods.*** Neighborhoods are asked to consider planning and “manning” a game or booth during the event, and those which would like to get into the spirit of things should contact Liz Scroggins at 272-9883. An award will be given for best event, and bragging rights are included in the winnings!

The 2009 celebration will also include the 2nd annual chili cook-off, spaghetti dinner, trunk decorating contest and, of course, awards for best costumes. For information on any of these events, contact Pike Road Town Hall at 272-9883.



Pike Road Arts & Crafts Fair 2009

The 43rd annual Pike Road Arts and Crafts Fair will take place Saturday, November 7 from 9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. at the historic Marks House on Pike Road. This year, the Town of Pike Road will have a booth at the event and will be selling a variety of Christmas items donated by the Chantilly Road Wal-Mart. Sales from the town's booth will benefit the PRICE Foundation.

With more than 250 exhibitors, the fair also features face painting for children, demonstrations by the Pike Road Volunteer Fire Department and live bird shows featuring owls, hawks and falcons. The Pike Road Home Depot will offer free make-and-take crafts for children, and, back by popular demand, the Sweet Shop inside the Marks House will be selling fair favorites including Mocha Cakes. Visitors will want to take in the Central Alabama Model A Ford Club's exhibition of restored 1920s Model A's.

Advance tickets are \$1 and can be purchased at the Feed Lot on Meriwether Road or AmeriFirst Bank on Vaughn Road. Admission at the gate is \$2. For more information, visit www.pikeroadfair.org, or call 567-6461.



Town of Pike Road

4902 Pike Road
Pike Road, AL 36064

Know the News—Join the Town of Pike Road Email List!

Often, the Town of Pike Road has special announcements to share with residents, or there is a need to send out reminders about special events. Our ability to communicate quickly is only as good as our email address list, and we need your help filling up that list. Send an email with your name, address and phone number to townofpikeroad@charterinternet.com. Additionally, if you know of neighbors who have recently become part of our town, please pass this request on to them!

