

## A Note from Mayor Gordon Stone

"We hope you had a joyful Thanksgiving spent with family, friends, food on the table, and a grateful spirit. We have so much to be thankful for, and we want to say thank you to each of you for all you do to make the Town of Pike Road a special place to call home. From your enthusiastic engagement in community events to your spirit of hospitality and care for one another, to your support of the Pike Road Schools Patriots and all they continue to accomplish, thank you for making our hometown all that it can be.

There is so much to celebrate during this special season, and we look forward to all it brings. We hope you will join us next Friday, Dec. 3, for holiday magic and family fun as we celebrate together with the Annual Town Christmas Tree Lighting. The Christmas Tree Lighting will feature holiday performances from the Pike Road Schools Show Choir and Pike Road Dance Academy, and we will read a Christmas story before enjoying a special snowy treat. We also want to remind you that the holiday season is a time of need for many of our neighbors. The Dec. 3 Christmas Tree Lighting will kick off the Season of Giving holiday collections drive, which will continue through Dec. 21. During this annual collections drive, we invite the community to drop off non-perishable food items, household necessities, personal hygiene items, and cold-weather clothes for both the Food Pantry at Woodland United Methodist Church and local veterans in need. The Central Alabama Veterans Health Care Systems, which serves veterans across Alabama and into Georgia, and volunteers from our local food pantry will distribute your gifts to our neighbors in need. To learn more about these opportunities, give us a call at 334.272.9883 or visit <a href="https://www.pikeroad.us">www.pikeroad.us</a>.

In addition to holiday activities, the Pike Road Business Association will also meet this month. Whether you're in business in the Pike Road area or you are interested in entrepreneurship, we encourage you to join us on Dec. 9 for the final Business Association Lunch & Learn of 2021. We'll network and enjoy lunch from a local restaurant, and Professional Trainer Sharleen Smith of Troy University Continuing Education & Outreach will lead "Leadership During Change" to help us each prepare to lead our way into the New Year.

Visit <u>www.pikeroad.us</u> to subscribe to our weekly e-newsletter and receive updates on events like these and others in our area. The weekly e-newsletter is just one of the many ways to stay connected to the Town of Pike Road, but we're also on social media (just search @townofpikeroad), and we have a monthly radio show that visits local businesses and locations across Town.

With the busy holiday season upon us, we ask you to remember that COVID-19 is an ongoing challenge in our community and our state. One of the most effective tools to combat COVID-19 is vaccination. Vaccines are free and readily available at multiple locations within our community, and individuals ages 5+ are eligible to receive the Pfizer vaccine. Click here to learn more about COVID-19 vaccines and where you can receive yours.

As always, we will continue to pray for you, and we encourage you to pray for each other.

Thank you and God Bless."