

# The Latest News from Pike Road Town Hall

This section of *The Pike* features highlights from recent events and initiatives. Keep up with us on social media for more Town of Pike Road fun, and use #mypikeroad to join the conversation!

## Fall and Winter Highlights

### \* Aug. 17: Pond Management Seminar

There are over 50,000 ponds in the State of Alabama, and men and women from across town attended Pond Management Seminar to learn how to maintain theirs! Dr. Chuck Wright of the Montgomery County Extension Service explained the different uses of ponds, from fishing and irrigating to landscape features, and the unique care each need. He also shared tips for creating fish habitats, and the variety of tools the Extension uses to create them.



Above: Dr. Chuck Wright shows water samples during the Pond Management Seminar.

### \* Sept. 9: Art Talk & Afternoon Tea feat. Elana Hagler

Born in Tel Aviv, Israel, Elana Hagler is now a Pike Road resident and an Assistant Professor of Art at Alabama State University. In addition to sharing her gifts through leading local painting classes and participating in the annual Pike Road Plein Air Paint Out, Elana spoke at the inaugural Pike Road Arts Council Art Talk & Afternoon Tea. The event was a great success, bringing friends, neighbors and family of all ages together for a relaxing afternoon in a traditional tea setting. Refreshments, provided by Epicurean Delights, were as tasty as they were beautiful, and everyone enjoyed the opportunity to learn about Elana Hagler's artistic journey and view some of her pieces.



To the right, Arts Council member Willette Vaughn smiles with her granddaughter. Above, attendees show off their hats.

### \* Sept. 20-21: Pike Road Patriots' First Varsity Homecoming Festivities

The theme of Pike Road Schools' first varsity Homecoming was "We've Waited Decades for This Night!" in honor of the rich educational history of our area and the years of work the community and Town leadership put into creating the PRS system. The community celebrated this milestone with events leading up to the Homecoming game, a Patriot win against Bullock County.



Above, PRS Cheerleaders perform in front of Town Hall during the Sept. 20 Pep Rally.

### \* Sept. 20 – Community Pep Rally at Town Hall

The Community Pep Rally featured the Pike Road Schools Patriot football players, cheerleaders, show choir, and band! In the spirit of creating new traditions and connecting with the Pike Road area's past, Mayor Stone gifted a bell to the PRS Patriots. Historically, Ms. Georgia Washington rang a bell to welcome her students each day, and that bell is on display at the Georgia Washington campus, refurbished by former students. Now, the new bell rings with each Patriot touchdown and victory!

### \* Sept. 21 – Homecoming Parade at Georgia Washington School

During the first ever Homecoming parade, Grades 8 – 11 paid tribute to the Pike Road community's history by decorating floats to represent decades, including the '20s, '50s & '60s, '70s and '80s. Agricultural Science students, the Marching Band, Wrestling Team, Cheerleaders, Homecoming hopefuls and mascot, Victor E. Patriot, were among participants in the parade, which was bookended by two of our emergency service partners: the Montgomery County Sheriff's Office and the Pike Road Volunteer Fire Department.

### \* Sept. 21 – Homecoming Game @ ASU Stadium v. Bullock County

The Town of Pike Road community filled the stands of ASU's Hornet Stadium to support the Patriots in their first varsity Homecoming game. The band, cheerleaders, pep squad and Victor E. Patriot helped keep the energy up in the stands, and the Patriots pulled through with a 31-28 win over Bullock County. Homecoming hopefuls worked in the weeks before the game to raise \$13,000 for charities close to their hearts, and Kennedy Jones, who raised money for the Montgomery Area Food Bank, was crowned Homecoming Queen at halftime. The band performed the alma mater, transcribed by Band Director Patrick Darby based on a rendition by an alumnus of the Historic Pike Road School, after the game, another new tradition for Pike Road Schools.

### \* Sept. 27: Lunch & Learn – Creating a Leadership Legacy

Marketing and event guru Ashley Jernigan joined us at Town Hall for the Pike Road Business Association's Sept. 27 Lunch & Learn. She shared valuable lessons on leaving a lasting impression on those who work for you, beside you, and above you. One key takeaway? Finding someone to mentor can help you create a legacy, develop your professional skills, and help your team achieve greater success. Nearly 40 local businessmen and women from a range of professions attended to network and take in Ashley's words of wisdom. She also spoke to the value of relationships in the workplace and dispelled a few myths about millennials! The Sept. 27 Lunch & Learn was sponsored by ASE Credit Union and presented in partnership with Troy University's Continuing Education & Outreach.



Above, Ashley Jernigan speaks to attendees of the Sept. 27 Lunch & Learn.

### \* Oct. 4: Cottage Food Law Seminar

The Cottage Food Law Seminar was the fourth installment of the 2018 Ag & Stewardship Seminar Series, presented in partnership with the Montgomery County branch of the Alabama Cooperative Extension System. All course participants received Cottage Food Law certification and are well on their way to sharing their canning and baking talents this holiday season through this entrepreneurship opportunity.

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### \* Oct. 24: Town of Pike Road Celebrates 21 Years



We are excited to see the progress that our hometown has made over the past 21 years of incorporation. We have seen Pike Road Schools become a reality, with successful students and a variety of extracurricular activities, a continuously engaged community, and development across our 16 square miles. With an unwavering commitment to the Four Pillars identified by our earliest citizens – Planning, Services, Education and Quality of Life – we look forward to many more years. The people of the Town of Pike Road are what makes it such a special place to call home, and for that we thank you!

To the right, Mayor Gordon Stone, Councilwoman Betsy Atkins, former Town Clerk Charlene Rabren and former Mayor Wayne Rabren enjoyed cake and conversation in celebration of the Town of Pike Road's 21st anniversary of incorporation after a morning Town Council meeting.

### \* Oct. 23 - 28: Hay, Look at Us! Contest

Nearly forty neighborhoods, businesses and organizations participated in the 9th year of the fall-favorite Hay, Look at Us! contest. By working together to showcase your creativity and hometown pride, you created some of the most intricate entries we have seen, each showcasing what fall in the Town of Pike Road means to you! Thank you for continuing to make the Hay, Look at Us! contest a unique and exciting initiative.

#### Neighborhood Winners

1. Bridle Brook Farms
2. Boykin Lakes
3. Farmington

Honorable Mention: Merry Station

#### Business/Organization Winners

1. Pike Road Elementary School, Founding Campus
2. Pet Palace Hotels
3. Grace Episcopal Church

Honorable Mention: Pike Road High School, Georgia Washington Campus

**People's Choice Winner:** Bridle Brook Farms



Pictured: Many little hands and strong minds worked together on the PRES entry. Here, Ms. Fureigh (C4) and Ms. Shelton (C1) and their learners show off their masterpiece (left). The Bridle Brook Farms creation was a team effort! Some of the contributors - Tammy Glass, Caroline Motley, Amber Farmer and Paty Moreno - smile with their winning entry (right).

### \* Oct. 26 – 27: Just Plein Fun – 7th Annual Pike Road Plein Air Paint Out

The 7th Annual Plein Air Paint Out, presented by the Pike Road Arts Council, was a great success. Over 40 artists spent Friday and Saturday, Oct. 26 & 27, around the Town of Pike Road, capturing the character of our hometown on canvas. The community joined the fun at live painting demonstrations and the Oct. 27 Art Show & Sale at New Waters Realty, which featured fresh works painted on plein air (or in the great outdoors) in the Town of Pike Road, as well as art created by Pike Road Elementary School students through their partnership with the Pike Road Arts Council. Those who attended the Art Show and Sale voted for their favorite painting to receive the People's Choice Award, and artist Craig Reynolds took home the prize. One voter, Paulette Dykes, received the door prize: a gift basket including gift certificates from local businesses and two tickets to the Nov. 18 Art Talk & Afternoon Tea featuring artist and Pike Road resident Carl Calderone, presented by the Pike Road Arts Council. Montgomery artist George Taylor contributed his expertise, judging the still-wet



Above: Artist Alisa Koch provides a live painting demonstration at The Waters neighborhood (left). Artist Carl Calderone, winner of the People's Choice Award, paints Pike Road landscapes (right).

works created during the Paint Out as follows:

- 1st Place - John Brian Guernsey
- 2nd Place - Elana Hagler
- 3rd Place - Joan Vienot

Honorable Mention - Robin Robers & Melanie Magee

Thank you to The Waters and the New Waters Realty Team for hosting artists this weekend, and for welcoming the community for the Oct. 27 Art Show & Sale, as well as all the sponsors who helped make this event a success.

### \* Oct. 31: Town Hall-oween

Families across the Town of Pike Road celebrated Halloween this week with fall festivals, trick-or-treating, and family fun. Some of them celebrated by stopping by Town Hall for a sweet treat from the Town Hall-oween team!



Pictured above: Children smile at the Veterans Pavilion after the Ceremony (left) and generations of family come together to celebrate their veteran (right). Pictured to the right, Distinguished Guest Speaker Lieutenant Colonel Scott Corey addresses community at the 2018 Veterans Appreciation Ceremony.

### \* Nov. 4: Veterans Appreciation Ceremony

Veterans, friends and family gathered at Veterans Park on Sunday, November 4, to celebrate America's veterans. Thank you to everyone who attended and helped us honor the veterans in our community and across the country at this meaningful, annual event. We were honored to commemorate the service of 35 individual veterans, dedicating their personalized bricks in the Pike Road Veterans Memorial Walk of Honor at the 2018 Ceremony. Contributions from the community help make this event meaningful for all. This year's contributors included distinguished guest speaker Lieutenant Colonel Scott Corey, Commander of the 42nd Aerospace Medicine Squadron, the Pike Road Schools Show Choir, Rev. Nathaniel Darville of Grace Episcopal Church, Pastor Patrick Quinn of Century Church, the Capitol Sounds Concert Band, Troy University Army ROTC Color Guard, Girl Scout Troop 9334, and more!

To the right, Town Receptionist, Sandra Mullins, and Assistant to the Town Clerk, Tasha Darnell, smile with Paris and August, who flew in from Lochshire for a treat.



# The Latest News from Pike Road Town Hall

### \* Nov. 13: Bugs in the House Seminar

During the holidays, "the more the merrier" is a fine saying when it comes to family & friends, but when bugs move indoors to avoid the cold, it gets crowded - quickly. We had a great seminar with Alabama Cooperative Extension System agent Mallory Kelley, who shared the prevention and treatment tips & tools necessary to control pests as cold weather settles in. Two pieces of advice? Cut off their indoor supply of food and water!

### \* Nov. 18: Art Talk & Afternoon Tea feat. Carl Calderone

On Sunday, Nov. 18, the Pike Road Arts Council drew a crowd to Town Hall with the help of celebrated artist and Pike Road resident Carl Calderone. As the audience enjoyed scones, finger sandwiches and tea served by Arts Council volunteers, Carl shared the story of his artistic journey. He noted three things that impacted his art the most: his father, his surroundings (He has lived in over 30 different places, and ultimately decided to call the Town of Pike Road home!) and the strong women in his life, from his teachers growing up to his wife. Carl specializes in watercolors and paints everything from greeting cards for family and friends to large, vibrant pieces that reflect his love for jazz music. Thank you, Carl, for sharing your love for the arts with us on Sunday! We would also like to thank the Montgomery School of Music, which provided music during the tea.



Pictured, Pike Road resident and celebrated artist Carl Calderone shared his artistic journey at the November Art Talk & Afternoon Tea. Attendees enjoyed traditional, tea-style refreshments and their choice of a variety of teas, served by the Pike Road Arts Council.

### \* Nov. 30: Town Christmas Tree Lighting



Above, The Pike Road Schools Show Choir performs one of their holiday pieces at the Christmas Tree Lighting.

On Nov. 30, the Town of Pike Road hosted its annual Christmas Tree Lighting. The community gathered at Town Hall for a family-friendly evening of holiday cheer. The event featured performances by the Pike Road Schools Show Choir, a Christmas story read by Town of Pike Road Mayor Gordon Stone, hot chocolate, and snow! The Christmas Tree Lighting also kicked off the Town of Pike Road's Annual Season of Giving Holiday Collections Drive. From Nov. 30 until noon on Dec. 19, the Town of Pike Road will collect items for the Central Alabama Veterans Health Care System and the Food Pantry at Woodland United Methodist Church. A list of requested items is available at pikeroad.us.

### \* Nov. 30 – Dec. 19: Season of Giving

We have been humbled by the response to this year's Season of Giving Drive, which benefits the Central Alabama Veterans Health Care System and the Food Pantry at Woodland United Methodist Church. The Season of Giving began Nov. 30 at the Town Christmas Tree Lighting and continues through noon on Dec. 19. Donations are welcome at Town Hall on weekdays from 8 a.m. - 5 p.m., and our Dec. 17 episode of Mondays with the Mayor visited the Food Pantry to welcome donations and get to know the volunteers who facilitate the ministry. If you missed the Season of Giving deadline, there are still many opportunities to donate your time or resources to the Food Pantry or CAVHCS, which are in need year-round. A full list of needed items is available at pikeroad.us, and includes: Personal hygiene items like toothpaste & toothbrushes, cold weather items like socks & slipper socks and dry skin cream, food items like sugar, flour, and canned fruits, meats & vegetables, and household items like laundry detergent, and disinfectant.



Above, a resident of Grey Ridge drops off donations at Town Hall.

### \* Mondays with the Mayor

Our monthly radio program, Mondays with the Mayor, will continue into 2019. Once per month, WTXK ESPN the Ticket (107.5 FM/1210 AM) broadcasts live from a location in the Town of Pike Road. During the lunch hour, Mayor Stone joins the show to answer YOUR questions and discuss all things Town of Pike Road. You can participate simply by tuning in and sending questions to info@pikeroad.us or calling in during the show, but all are invited to stop by our location to join the conversation - and sometimes we have snacks! Recently, Mondays with the Mayor stopped by a few Pike Road businesses...

#### \* Aug. 20: Mondays with the Mayor at Tammy's Market - Tammy's Market and PYE Bar, located at Pike Road Station, celebrated their ribbon cutting with the Montgomery Area Chamber of Commerce during the August edition of Mondays with the Mayor! Tammy and Jessica, mother and daughter and owners of the restaurants, discussed their offerings and the history behind PYE Bar's name...It came from Jessica's grandfather!

\* Sept. 17: Mondays with the Mayor at SweetCreek Farm Market - We had a great time visiting with the community, talking about upcoming events, snacking on cookies, and sharing the exciting things happening in the Town of Pike Road.

\* Oct. 22: Mondays with the Mayor at the Veterans Pavilion - We enjoyed BBQ and exciting conversation both on air on WTXK The Ticket and in person with our guests as we discussed upcoming events and exciting developments in the Town of Pike Road.

\* Nov. 19: Mondays with the Mayor at Home Depot on Chantilly Parkway - In November, we visited with the community at our local Home Depot, located on Chantilly Parkway. For years, the Home Depot team has shown us what it truly means to be a community partner. Each year, they volunteer time and materials to help keep the Pike Road Veterans Memorial beautiful, and much more. Thank you, Home Depot! Upcoming shows include: Jan. 28 at H2O Cafe & Market at The Waters, Feb. 25, and March 25.



Above: Tammy's Market & PYE Bar Ribbon Cutting



Above: Teddy Gandy, of Pike Road Baptist Church, and PRS parent Marvin Lowe stopped by the show at the Veterans Pavilion.



## Administrative Updates

The Town of Pike Road Planning Commission and Town Council, made up of dedicated members of our community, have been hard at work this season, as always. They maintain a relationship that allows them to work in the interest of the vision of the people of Pike Road, with a strong commitment to *maintaining character while planning for progress*.

Town of Pike Road Town Council & Planning Commission meetings are open to the public. The Planning Commission meets the second Monday of every month at 5:30 p.m. The Pike Road Town Council meets the second Monday of every month at 6:00 p.m. (or immediately after the Planning Commission meeting, but not before 6:00 p.m.) and the fourth Wednesday of every month at 7:00 a.m. These meetings are held in the council chamber at Pike Road Town Hall, and meeting agendas can be found online at [bit.ly/tpr-agendas](http://bit.ly/tpr-agendas).

It is an honor to commemorate milestones and achievements of individuals and organizations in the Town of Pike Road. Below, take a look at some of the exciting things our citizens are doing!

### \* Congratulations, and thank you, Antioch Missionary Baptist Church, for 200 years of service and leadership in the Pike Road area!

On September 9, Mayor Stone had the opportunity to represent Town leadership at the Antioch Missionary Baptist Church Bicentennial Celebration. Pictured, he presents a proclamation congratulating Antioch on 200 years of service and thanks the Antioch leadership and congregation for two centuries of contributions to the Pike Road community.



### \* Thank you, Montgomery County Sheriff's Office, for your professional and efficient service to our community!

On September 26, the Pike Road Town Council presented Sheriff Derrick Cunningham of the Montgomery County Sheriff's Office with our annual contribution (pictured). This year, we are excited to partner with Pike Road Schools and the MCSO to provide an additional School Resource Officer for our community's schools.

### \* Congratulations, PrimeSouth Bank, for 60 years of service in the River Region, and 5 years of calling the Town of Pike Road home!

On October 9, Town leadership was excited to present a proclamation to Todd Mote, Area Executive, and Dawn Cherry, Senior VP of Marketing, of PrimeSouth Bank, recognizing their 60-year anniversary of serving their River Region and their outstanding community partnership throughout the 5 years they have served the Town of Pike Road (pictured).



### \* Thank you, Pike Road Lions Club, for your contributions to our community, including encouraging an active lifestyle and raising awareness for Diabetes management and prevention!

On October 24, the Pike Road Town Council presented a proclamation of thanks and recognition to Dennis Fonville, Pike Road Lions Club President, and Lions Club member Charlene Rabren as the Pike Road Lions prepared for their first Diabetes Strides Walk, one of many Strides Walks across the country that aim to provide resources, foster community, and raise awareness for Diabetes management and prevention (pictured).

### \* Congratulations, Hunter Atkins, for achieving the rank of Eagle Scout!

On November 14, Town leadership recognized Pike Road resident Hunter Atkins for his years of hard work and community service through the Boy Scouts of America with a proclamation congratulating him on achieving his Eagle Scout rank in the Tukabatchee Area Council Troop 15 (pictured with Town leadership and the Atkins family).



## Join the Conversation Using #mypikeroad!

The town utilizes various communication outlets in an effort to keep residents aware of news and events in and around town. Here are some easy ways to keep up with what is happening:

\* We're on Facebook, Instagram and Twitter! Just search "@townofpikeroad" on your favorite social media platforms, and like or follow us to receive updates in your news feed. Tag us in your photos and use #mypikeroad for the opportunity to be featured.

\* If you are not already receiving our weekly e-newsletter, visit [pikeroad.us](http://pikeroad.us), and click "Connect with Us" to sign up. You can unsubscribe at any time, but we hope you will never want to stop receiving this valuable communication piece.

## Pike Road Schools

*A letter from Dr. Chuck Ledbetter, Pike Road Schools Superintendent*

It has been a great first half of the school year. We have grown to over 1,850 students. We have added a third school campus at Georgia Washington, started offering Advanced Placement courses through an A+ College Ready grant, began playing varsity sports.

While we were busy growing, we continued to work on learning. Pike Road Schools attained AdvancED system accreditation in 2018 with a very high score, earning accreditation through 2023. Our students and teachers continue to share with the rest of the state, leading the way in improving education through hosting walkthroughs for educators to see how we are teaching and learning. These walkthroughs are sponsored by A+, an Alabama group working to improve our schools. The Pike Road Way focuses on students taking responsibility for their own learning, and learning to think, innovate, and create. We are looking forward to the release of the state report card so everyone can see the effect that learner engagement is having on our students.

Our educators continue to be recognized as the best in the state, as evidenced by Britney Fureigh's selection as one of three finalists in Alabama for the Presidential Teaching Award in Math and Maria Franco's selection as one of three finalists in Alabama for the Presidential Teaching Award in Science. Natalie Tucker was selected as the Alabama Gifted Coordinator of the Year, and David Sikes has been selected as the District 3 principal of the year and is in the final three for possible selection as the Alabama Principal of the Year.

We are excited about the renovations that are getting underway in the Georgia Washington Campus. The building will be a special place when the work is complete, and we are proud to rework and continue the use of a building and a site that has educated so many people over the last seven decades. It is an honor to preserve the legacy of Ms. Washington and see it continued into future generations.

We hope to be responsible stewards of all we have and to use it to make a difference around us and around the world. May you enjoy peace in this season and spread joy to all around you!

Dr. Chuck Ledbetter  
Superintendent, Pike Road Schools  
Visit Pike Road Schools on the web: [www.pikeroadschools.org/](http://www.pikeroadschools.org/)

*Town of Pike Road*

P.O. Box 640339  
Pike Road, AL 36064

### ENHANCE: A Vision with Focus

The "ENHANCE initiative" is a long-term strategic plan designed to ensure that the Town of Pike Road continues to mature in the four areas identified by residents in 2005 as the keys to the municipality's success: quality of life, community planning, public education and municipal services. We call these the Four Pillars. Focusing on the quality of life pillar, the ENHANCE initiative organizes community groups to help carry out activities that promote the key areas of the ENHANCE initiative: Exercise, Nature, Health, Agriculture, Nutrition, Community & Education.

*Town of Pike Road*  
**ENHANCE**  
initiative  
*ensuring quality of life*

**ENHANCE initiative Committees:**  
Agriculture & Stewardship Club · Neighborhood Leaders  
Recreation and Health Service Corps · Arts Council · P.R.A.Y.E.R. Team  
Business Association · Community Enrichment

So, what's your passion? Are you an artist, an entrepreneur, a health guru? Everyone can contribute to our community through the ENHANCE initiative. For more information about these committee or to get involved, visit [bit.ly/tpr-ENHANCE](http://bit.ly/tpr-ENHANCE) or email [info@pikeroad.us](mailto:info@pikeroad.us).

*Proudly presented by the Town of Pike Road Arts Council...*

CROSSROADS THEATER 2019

**THE LONG ROAD  
TO LOVE** *Stories of the  
Human Heart*

*by Elizabeth Vander Kamp*

*Saturday, Feb. 9, 2019*

*7:30 p.m. at Pike Road Town Hall*

TICKETS AVAILABLE NOW!

VISIT [PIKEROAD.US](http://PIKEROAD.US) TO LEARN MORE AND  
RESERVE YOUR SEAT TODAY.

*Tickets \$20  
Seats are limited.*

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## Town of Pike Road

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Gordon Stone, Mayor  
Chris Dunn, Council Chairman  
Betsy Atkins, Council  
Angie Bradsher, Council  
Rob Steindorff, Council  
Leroy Tolliver, Council  
Lisa Burke, Clerk

### Calendar of Confirmed Town Events

Dec. 24 – 26: Closed for Christmas Holiday. Merry Christmas!  
Dec. 28 – Jan. 7: Christmas Tree Recycling  
Dec. 31: Town Hall closes at noon for New Year's Holiday  
Jan. 1: Closed for New Year's Day. Happy New Year!  
Jan. 13: Art Talk & Afternoon Tea feat. Barbara Davis  
Jan. 14: Planning Commission Meeting  
Jan. 14: Town Council Meeting  
Jan. 18 Ag & Stewardship Seminar: Estate Planning  
Jan. 21: Closed for Martin Luther King, Jr. Day  
Jan. 23: Town Council Meeting  
Jan. 28: Mondays with the Mayor at H2O Café & Market  
Feb. 1 – 12: Valentines for Veterans  
Feb. 9: Crossroads Theater: The Long Road to Love  
Feb. 11: Planning Commission Meeting  
Feb. 11: Town Council Meeting  
Feb. 18: Closed for Presidents' Day  
Feb. 25: Mondays with the Mayor  
Feb. 27: Town Council Meeting  
Mar. 2: Pike Road Art Market  
Mar. 11: Planning Commission Meeting  
Mar. 11: Planning Commission Meeting  
Mar. 9: Art Talk & Afternoon Tea feat. Patricia Caldwell  
Mar. 25: Mondays with the Mayor  
Mar. 27: Town Council Meeting  
Mar. 28: Lunch & Learn

*More activities may be added! Visit [www.pikeroad.us](http://www.pikeroad.us) and follow us on social media to stay in-the-know.*

*The Pike*

The Quarterly Newsletter of the Town of Pike Road, Fall & Winter 2018  
A Product of the Community Development Department

Throughout 2018, the Town of Pike Road community has experienced exciting progress. Through community engagement and input, our ENHANCE Initiative committees continue to develop, expanding our Quality of Life programming to include monthly Agriculture & Stewardship Seminars, engaging Business Association lunches, and innovative events like the Arts Council's Art Talk & Afternoon Tea series. Our service partners continue to provide excellent support in all areas, from emergency response to electricity and sanitation. It is exciting to see the Pike Road School System grow on all fronts, with three active campuses, dynamic extracurricular activities, and success in both academics and athletics. These are all made possible with the help of an award-winning team of dedicated teachers and administrators.

In partnership with the Pike Road Schools Board of Education and administration, improvements continue on the Georgia Washington Campus. The town and school are collectively renovating classrooms, maximizing the surrounding acreage to provide home fields for sports teams, and updating the remainder of the campus. We look forward to seeing these projects unfold and create opportunities for students to grow. Further improvements will be forthcoming, as the Board of Education wraps up its strategic planning exercise.

This fall, we have had a lot to celebrate. The community embraced our area's rich history and began new traditions as the Pike Road Schools Patriots experienced their first varsity homecoming, complete with a community pep rally, parade, and winning football game. The Pike Road Arts Council's 7th annual Plein Air Paint Out was the most successful yet, attracting over forty artists from across the nation. Also, this year's Hay, Look at Us! competition featured the creativity and teamwork of nearly forty neighborhoods, businesses and organizations.

We have enjoyed the opportunity to visit with local businesses and discuss our Town through the Mondays with the Mayor radio program, recently visiting Home Depot, Veterans Park, and SweetCreek Farm Market. The annual Veterans Appreciation Ceremony drew a great crowd of veterans. We enjoyed celebrating with family and friends as we honored the sacrifices our service men and women. We have enjoyed time together at events like the Town Christmas Tree Lighting. We are excited to expand these opportunities even more with the development of an agriculture, recreation, and performing arts park in the Trotman Road area. This facility will provide a variety of options for our community to gather and grow.

It is an honor and a privilege to be part of such a dynamic, engaged community. The Town of Pike Road remains committed to encouraging growth, cultivating quality of life, and planning for progress while maintaining the special character of our Town. We look forward to continued development in all areas and welcome your thoughts and ideas as we begin the new year together. Whether you have a unique talent, suggestion, or business concept, we would love to meet with you to discuss how we can work together to benefit the Pike Road community.

In reflecting on all we have experienced and achieved in 2018, I am reminded of the many blessings we have in the Town of Pike Road. The continued support and contributions of the people of Pike Road are what truly makes it a special place to call home. Thank you, friends and neighbors, for all you do.

God Bless!

Gordon Stone, Mayor

Pictured: Mayor Stone rings the new Patriot bell, given to the PRS Patriot football team at the Community Pep Rally celebrating their first varsity Homecoming in September. Keep reading to learn more about this and other exciting events!

