



Pope High School  
**PTSA**  
everychild.one voice.

# HOUND HIGHLIGHTS

A Weekly PTSA E-Newsletter for Pope High School Parents and Students  
3001 Hembree Road, Marietta GA 30062, 770-578-7900  
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Send submissions to [popehoundhighlights@comcast.net](mailto:popehoundhighlights@comcast.net) • Deadline: Tuesdays 5PM

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## IMPORTANT DATES

December 12	A Fine Arts Showcase – Rialto Center
December 18-19	Final Exams
December 22-January 5	Winter Holidays – No School

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## FROM THE ADMINISTRATION...

### SHOP WITH A GREYHOUND- SUCCESS!

Thank you to everyone who participated in and supported our 1st Annual SWAG. It was a huge success! We raised over \$12,000 and took 75 children shopping at The Avenue East Cobb where they each spent a \$100 gift card. It was a fantastic day for all. A special thank you to Leadership, SGA, NHS, Ms. Jimerson's student aides, and the 250 Pope student volunteers who signed up for SWAG 08. Thank you again for such a great event!

### CASH FOR POPE

Georgia Natural Gas (GNG) has agreed to support Pope! All we have to do is sign up customers, link to the TrueBlue Schools program.... and they pay US! If you are already a GNG customer, simply go to [www.popehigh.com](http://www.popehigh.com) and click on the TrueBlue Schools logo. Then, select "Yes, I am a GNG customer", follow the prompts and select Pope High School. GNG will then donate \$25 to Pope AND give us \$5 per month that you stay with GNG. If you are not currently a GNG customer but would like to become one, you can make the switch online! Go to [www.popehigh.com](http://www.popehigh.com), click on the TrueBlue Schools logo and then "No, I am not currently a GNG Customer." You will be prompted through the sign-up process. **Be sure to have a copy of your current gas marketer's bill, and be sure to write down the \$25 Visa gift card promotion number from that first screen!** (That's just a small "thank you" from GNG for making the switch.) Or, if you prefer, you can call a customer service representative at 1-866-ONLY-GNG, Monday –Friday, 7AM – 10PM or Saturdays, 7AM – 7PM. Once you receive a GNG account number, you'll follow the same procedures listed above for current customers and you'll have helped Pope earn cash! Questions about this program? Email [info@popehighschoolfoundation.com](mailto:info@popehighschoolfoundation.com) and someone will respond to you!

### SENIOR EXAM EXEMPTIONS FOR FALL 2008

Forms were sent out to senior homerooms on Tuesday for students to make application to exempt an exam this semester. They are to petition through the teacher whose exam they wish to exempt. Requirements include three or less absences from that class and a passing grade. **Forms are due Monday, December 15, at 3:30PM to PPO. NO EXCEPTIONS!** Discrepancies will be resolved in PPO. Appeals are due to PPO by Friday, December 12.

## FALL SEMESTER EXAM SCHEDULE

Final Exams will be given on **Thursday, December 18** (1st and 2nd Blocks) and **Friday, December 19** (3rd and 4th Blocks). Every course will give a final exam or test on these dates. No final exam can or will be given earlier than scheduled. This is State and County policy. Please make travel arrangements so that they do not conflict with Final Exam schedules. School will dismiss at 11:40AM on those two days. If you wish for you student to stay at school until the regular dismissal time of 3:25PM, please complete the form below and return it to your student's homeroom teacher before Tuesday, December 16.

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### I DO NOT WANT MY STUDENT TO LEAVE EARLY ON EXAM DAYS

\_\_\_\_\_ My son/daughter may ***not*** leave school early on December 18 and December 19, 2008.

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Home Phone Number

Parent Cell Phone Number

Parent Work Phone Number

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Student's Name (Please Print)

Grade

Parent's Signature

Detach and return this form to the HOMEROOM TEACHER  
before **Tuesday, December 16, 2008.**

***All students must attend homeroom each day at 10:00AM.***

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### PARENT PICK-UP AFTER EXAMS

All traffic coming into Pope will turn to the right forming two lanes traveling in the same direction. Please be patient - there is no quick way out. It is faster when cars follow the flow and the directions of the teachers in the parking lot. **Please adhere to the following:** Park only in the side lanes or along the perimeter in the teacher parking lot. No traffic will move until all students have crossed the cross walk. Do not park or stop along the sidewalk in the front of the school to pick up your students. We thank you for your assistance in this matter and hope you all have a happy safe holiday!

### SPRING SEMESTER PARKING

Spring semester parking begins Tuesday, January 6. Please note the following dates and times for your student.

**Rise/Internship Classes:** Mrs. Hill will visit these classes during the first week to distribute the necessary forms for you to receive your decal as soon as possible. Completed paperwork and monies will be collected during your actual class period. Students in these classes are guaranteed a spring parking decal.

**Top Ten GPA Juniors and Coaches Choice:** As soon as the new GPA's are calculated, these students will be summoned to Mrs. Hill's office. Coaches' Choice decals will be distributed during the week of Jan 6.

**Seniors:** Many of you have turned in partial forms for spring decals. On Thursday, January 8, during lunches, senior parking will begin again. Mrs. Hill will know exactly how many passes are left based on the numbers from the above categories. This will only take place during lunch. At the end of D lunch on January 8, your name will be placed on a wait list in the order your paperwork is turned in.

**Second decals:** A parent is required to come to school in order to get a second decal. Please contact Mrs. Hill via phone or email to secure a date and time to ensure she is available when you come.

#### Requirements for a parking decal:

- pink form and application signed by student and parent
- copy of valid driver's license
- copy of current insurance for the vehicle you will drive
- \$50 for spring parking decal
- \$5 for a second decal

## **GHS GT PREP**

The Pope staff is working hard on all components of our GHS GT Prep program to ensure that all students are prepared for the upcoming tests in English/Language Arts, Math, Science and Social Studies in March. New activities open to all interested students will be available next semester. We're even kicking it up to a new level by having a GHS GT Boot Camp on Saturday, March 21, from 10 AM - 2 PM. A blog has been created which you can visit for all things regarding the GHS GT. The link is <http://popehs.typepad.com/ghsgtprep>. This blog is in the infancy stages, but more information will be posted soon. Please contact Mrs. Hill or Mrs. Mason with any questions or concerns regarding this program. We are here to help your child succeed!

## **PTSA NEWS**

### **IGNORANCE IS NO DEFENSE BOOK STILL AVAILABLE**

J. Tom Morgan conducted a dynamic program last week entitled *Ignorance Is No Defense*. Its purpose was to make teens and their parents aware of the laws in Georgia that affect students ages 13+. There were many laws (and consequences of breaking them) pertaining to teens that he discussed during both the student and parent presentations that were a surprise to many who attended. After the parent program, PTSA sold copies of his book for only \$5. If you were unable to attend, you can still purchase the book in the PPO Office while supplies last. The PPO Office will only be able to accept checks made payable to Pope PTSA, not cash. Get yours before the supply runs out!

### **PTSA REFLECTIONS WINNERS!**

The theme for the 2008-2009 Reflections contest was "Wow". A big *thank you* to all who entered this year's National PTA Reflections Program. Congratulations to the following first and second place winners whose entries have been sent to the county level for judging! **9<sup>th</sup> Grade:** Grace Ferzely –Film/Video; Rebecca Harman – Dance/Choreography; Emily DeMario – Visual Arts; Angela Andrews –Visual Arts; Sarah Corbett – Photo (2); Kaylin Turpin – Literature; Martha Earhart – Literature. **10<sup>th</sup> Grade:** Katherine Ward- Visual Arts. **11<sup>th</sup> Grade:** Anita Hung – Literature; Alexis Ahlzadeh – Literature; Zachary Tupper – Visual Arts. **12<sup>th</sup> Grade:** Dominique Keilhauer-Photo.

## **POPE FOUNDATION**

### **FACELIFT UPDATE**

If you've driven past Pope lately, you've seen that our school's facelift is well underway! We are so excited to see this dream become a reality! It is not too late to support this effort to spruce up Pope. Mail checks, payable to the Pope Foundation, to the school address – 3001 Hembree Road, Marietta, GA 30062 OR pay securely online using PayPal at [www.popehighschoolfoundation.com](http://www.popehighschoolfoundation.com). Remember, all 2008 charitable deductions must be received before the last mail delivery to Pope on December 19, 2008.

### **ARE YOU AN ONLINE SHOPPER?**

*We have over 700 stores and a search engine at your disposal!*

If you do your holiday shopping online– or any shopping for that matter –you can help the Pope Foundation in two different ways. Both are simple and easy! Looking for that perfect gift? Go to [www.GoodSearch.com](http://www.GoodSearch.com) and select the Pope High School Foundation before doing your search. This Yahoo-driven search engine will contribute money to the Foundation for *every search* done through this site. Already know what you want to buy and where you want to buy it? Go to [www.Goodshop.com](http://www.Goodshop.com) and select from their over 700 stores to make your purchase. This site features links to LLBean, Lands End, iTunes, Amazon and Kohls, just to name a few. This site pays the Foundation a percentage of your total purchase. Percentages vary by vendor **and it costs you nothing!** Just select the Pope High School Foundation before you shop.

## **ATTENTION KROGER SHOPPERS - Action Required to Reactivate!**

The next time you pull out your Kroger Plus card to use, please be sure to ask the cashier to 'link' your card to Pope High School! Kroger pays a percentage back to schools who have signed up for their Earning Plus Learning program. The cashiers have a barcode available that they will scan after they scan your card....it's as simple as that! Even if you've done that in the past, please remember that Kroger requires each registered card to RESCAN at the beginning of each new school year to maintain these donations. Thank you for your support!

## **GREYHOUND GALA**

Is February 28, 2009 on YOUR calendar? That's the date of the first annual Greyhound Gala – a premier fundraising event presented by the Pope Foundation – and we'd love for you to join us! All proceeds from this event will benefit your selected Pope Athletic Club, Organization or the Pope Foundation. More details are at [www.popehighschoolfoundation.com](http://www.popehighschoolfoundation.com) under Greyhound Gala, or check with your club president. Make plans now to attend this exciting evening!

## **CLUBS & ORGANIZATIONS**

### **RUGBY CLUB MEETING**

Rugby is a game that is played in over 120 countries throughout the world. Many of the values of rugby come from its rich history, traditions, camaraderie and community involvement with the sport. Registration for rugby season is **Tuesday, December 16** at 7PM in the Pope cafeteria. This meeting is for players and parents. We will be sharing information about the sport and gathering information about the players. Please bring your medical insurance card and student ID.

### **FINE ARTS SHOWCASE – TICKETS ON SALE DURING LUNCH ON FRIDAY, DECEMBER 12**

The Fine Arts Department presents "A Fine Arts Showcase" at the Rialto Center for the Performing Arts at Georgia State University on **Friday, December 12** at 8PM. Adults \$15 & Students \$10. Contact Nancy Wohlfrom at Wohlfrom@bellsouth.net for more information.

## **HOUNDS HELPING OTHERS**

### **HOLIDAY HELP NEEDED**

The economy has been hard on many of our Pope families. Please bring in gift cards for Target or Walmart for those in need for the holidays. Often there are many programs for small children, but teenagers like to get gifts too. Please bring gift cards to Teresa Reddick in PPO who will get them to Pam Kretzmer, our school social worker.

### **CANNED FOOD DRIVE**

SGA will be sponsoring a canned food drive through **Friday, December 12**. Students can bring in nonperishable food items to homeroom any day during that time. The top three homerooms will receive Smoothies, Chick-fil-A biscuits or Wednesday morning Waffles as rewards. Last year we collected over 10,000 cans and would like to be able to top that this year. The needs of the community are much greater this year with the economy, so please spread the word and have your students bring in an item or two.

### **COMMUNITY OUTREACH--BEARS AND ANIMALS NEEDED BY CHILDREN'S HEALTHCARE OF ATLANTA (CHOA)**

To comfort a scared and sick child, the staff at CHOA gives children a teddy bear or stuffed animal as they arrive at the hospital. These small tokens of comfort to the children are made possible by donations. For the past four years, Lesley Hanley, a junior at Pope, has held a teddy bear drive in her neighborhood for sick children in the hospital. The PTSA Community Outreach Committee would like to support Lesley's efforts by bringing the teddy bear drive to Pope over the next two weeks. *CAN YOU HELP?* All teddy bears and stuffed animals must be

brand new and still have the tags attached. You may drop off your NEW teddy bears or stuffed animal donations in the white Community Outreach bin across from PPO by **Friday, December 19**. Let's reach out to these sick children and let them know that the students and staff at Pope care! Questions? Contact Debra Leon at [DebraTornes@aol.com](mailto:DebraTornes@aol.com) or Carol Zepf at [Carolsjm@aol.com](mailto:Carolsjm@aol.com).

## **NOTE THIS...**

### **POPE SPIRIT WEAR**

Looking for that last minute holiday gift? Pope Spirit Store will be open on Friday morning from 7AM till 8:30AM in the main corridor. You can buy T-shirts, hoodies, PJ pants and other Pope items. Pope football spirit wear is also still available. Contact Peter or Gaby McDonald at 678/921-2015 or [Gaby2457@aol.com](mailto:Gaby2457@aol.com) by December 21 for your last minute gifts.

### **POPE DRAMA DEPARTMENT'S PRODUCTION OF *PLEASANTVILLE* CONTINUES THIS WEEKEND**

Looking for something to do this weekend? Mr. Seiden's Play Production Class has been putting on a production of Pleasantville that opened last week. Performances will continue this Friday night and Saturday night at 7PM in the Pope Theater. Tickets are \$5 and are sold at the door. Pleasantville, the play, was adapted from the screen production that starred Reese Witherspoon in 1998. Please come and support the production!

## **SPORTS TALK**

### **FROM THE ATHLETIC DIRECTOR**

Congratulations to the wrestling team for finishing second in the Walton Duels. They will also be competing in the Suwanee Duels on this Friday and Saturday, December 12 and 13. Good luck!

The basketball teams lost some tough games to Campbell on Tuesday night. Both teams will be back in action this weekend at home. They will play Milton on Friday and Etowah on Saturday, both at 6PM.

I would also like to acknowledge six seniors that signed letters of intent to their colleges. Pope had three swimmers/divers commit: Stephanie Delang- University of Alabama, Kelsey Gaid -- University of Georgia, and Kristin Jarrel -- Naval Academy. Pope also had three baseball players commit. Jake Montgomery -- University of Georgia, Matt Lane -- Mississippi State, and Jon Matthews -- Charleston Southern. Congratulations and good luck to these exceptional student athletes!

# **GO HOUNDS!**

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