



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 ♦ Deadline: Tuesdays 5PM

IMPORTANT DATES

December 22–January 5
January 12

Winter Holidays – No School
Student/Athlete and Parent Info Night

FROM THE ADMINISTRATION...

WELCOME POPE'S NEWEST PARTNER IN EDUCATION

Pope is pleased to announce our newest Partner in Education- Harry Norman and Shadi Jaraysi. Shadi has joined Pope at the Marquee level sponsorship and wants to give back to his community. Shadi is a former Pope student and is eager to help you find the home of your dreams. Again, welcome aboard Harry Norman and Shadi Jaraysi!

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 our website at 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, 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 and someone will respond to you!

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

THANK YOU TO OUR BAKERS!

The Annual Faculty & Staff Dessert Buffet was a huge success thanks to our volunteer bakers. We received more compliments than we could count. Thank you for your generosity!

"WOW" REFLECTIONS WINNERS MOVE ON TO STATE

Pope High School is proud to recognize some of our own talented students whose work has been acknowledged even outside of our own halls. In November, Pope PTSA's Reflections committee sent 37 wonderful works of art and literature on to the county level for judging. We are pleased to share with you that 2 of these very talented students work has been selected, from among the hundreds of entries submitted, as COUNTY WINNERS, and their work will be sent on to the state level! Junior **Zachary Tupper** won for his visual arts entry and senior **Dominique Noel Keilhauer** won for her photography entry. Please join us in congratulating these gifted artists and on this impressive achievement. Let's wish them success as they move on to the State level.

POPE FOUNDATION

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 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 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 under Greyhound Gala, or check with your club president. Make plans now to attend this exciting evening!

CLUBS & ORGANIZATIONS

COMPUTER & ELECTRONICS RECYCLING DAY

On **Saturday, January 24**, from 9AM – 4PM, Pope Band will host its annual electronics recycling event in the Pope High School parking lot. This is the perfect time to safely dispose of obsolete or unusable computers, monitors, network equipment, peripherals, cables, televisions, cell phones, telephone equipment, stereos, game systems, tape players, etc. Items NOT accepted at this event are electronics in wood cabinets, kitchen/bathroom electronics and appliances. This is a fundraiser for the band; with a suggested donation of \$10 (generous contributions will be gratefully accepted!). Pick-up appointments are available – please email PopeBandRecycles@popeband.org. Rain date will be Saturday, January 31. For more information, contact Phillamena at 770/843-9210 or visit the band website at popeband.org.

POPE ORCHESTRA GOLF TOURNAMENT A SUCCESS!

The Pope Orchestra Booster Club and Director Eric Gray would like to thank everyone that supported the First Annual Golf Tournament held at Bradshaw Farm on November 15. The tournament was a great success! A very special thanks to those brave golfers who participated and were determined to have fun in spite of the cold, rainy weather. Please "Save the Date" for August 31, 2009 and plan to participate in the Second Annual Tournament. We promise the weather will be warmer!

NEWS FROM POPE'S ANIMAL AWARENESS CLUB

P.A.W.S., Pope's newly founded animal awareness club, is off to a great start! In November, members volunteered at Good Mews, a no-kill shelter for cats located in Marietta. In December, they volunteered with Mostly Mutts, an organization that coordinates dog rescues and adoptions in Kennesaw. They worked hard walking dogs and manning the information table at the Kennesaw Pet Smart off of Barrett Parkway. In addition to having a project once a month, the club meets the second Thursday of every month at 7:45AM in Room 85. If you are interested in joining, please come to our first spring semester meeting, **Thursday, January 8, 2009**. Donuts and juice will be provided!

POPE HABITAT NEEDS YOUR HELP!

Pope Habitat, as a part of the Cobb High School Coalition for Cobb Habitat, will begin building a house in February of 2009. Longhorn Steakhouse has been our corporate sponsor for several years, providing ½ of the cost of the

building of a house. Longhorn's new owner, Darden Company, has moved to Florida and they will no longer be partnering with us. The cost of the sponsorship for a house for 2009 is \$60,000. We are looking for corporate help for \$30,000. (One company at \$30,000, or two corporate sponsors at \$15,000 each, or three corporate sponsors at \$10,000 each!) Each Habitat club in each school in the Coalition (Pope, Harrison and Kennesaw Mountain) donates \$10,000. If you know of a business that would like to enter into a partnership with us, please have them email Deborah.Peterson@cobbk12.org and I will put them in touch with the appropriate person at the Cobb Habitat office. We know that there is a company out there that would be honored to support students who are willing to give up their Saturdays to build a house for a deserving family.

POPE HABITAT'S PARTICIPATION IN UPCOMING EVENT: The Pope Foundation will sponsor a Gala on February 28 which will include a Silent Auction. Habitat will be putting items in the Silent Auction and the amount earned from these items will go to our club. Please start thinking about items that you can donate to this Silent Auction. Sample items might be Certificates from Restaurants, Hair Salons, any type of store or service, Home and Garden items etc. Please email Deborah.Peterson@cobbk12.org and she will email you a letter that you can use to solicit items, as well as a receipt for you to provide to the donor of any item. Thank you!

COUNSELORS' NEWS

REMINDER TO SENIORS

Seniors whose college application requires a mid-year report, please bring in the forms and request the mid-year transcript to be released to those colleges. We will process them when the mid-year transcript is available.

ATTENTION JUNIOR STUDENTS AND PARENTS

Due to the large number of students interested in Project 2400, Princeton Review has been gracious enough to offer us a deeply discounted rate of \$375 per student (normal price is \$949) for an additional class if we have at least 15 students participate. Please contact The Princeton Review office by **Tuesday, December 30th** if you would like to participate in the \$375 class. The phone number is 404-233-0980. The course begins on Saturday, January 17, from 9AM – 1:15PM, followed by Thursday afternoon classes from 3:45PM-5:45PM and several Saturday classes for diagnostic testing. For the full schedule, please contact The Princeton Review office.

STUDENT/ATHLETE AND PARENT INFO NIGHT

Monday, January 12, at 7PM in the Theater, we will have a representative from The National Collegiate Scouting Association come and speak to our student athletes and their parents. This agency provides a program called "College Recruiting 101" for student-athletes with a serious desire to participate in collegiate athletics while pursuing a college degree. NCSA Educational Speaker will guide parents and student-athletes through the importance of establishing athletic and academic goals, setting realistic expectations and seeking opportunities at all college levels. Attendees will learn valuable tips on finding the best college based on their student-athletes' academic and athletic abilities. Most importantly, "College Recruiting 101" will reiterate that the most valuable goal anyone should strive for isn't scoring in the game, but scoring a college education.

STUDENT/PARENT PSAT NIGHT, TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 17, 7PM IN THE THEATER

Attention Sophomores and Juniors who paid to take the PSAT. PSAT scores are here, and were distributed on 12/16 in homeroom, but what do they mean? **We have scheduled a special event for students and parents where we will go over the score report in detail!** Come hear the Princeton Review in conjunction with the Pope School Counseling Department speak about:

- * A detailed analysis of your PSAT Score Report and results
- * A walk-through of the college admissions timeline
- * An introduction to the SAT, ACT, and SAT Subject Tests
- * A plan for a stress-free college admissions process
- * Preview gacollege411.org web site - a comprehensive website for planning, applying and paying for college

****BE SURE TO BRING YOUR PSAT SCORE REPORT WITH YOU TO THIS MEETING!**

RSVP online at www.princetonreview.com/events (Look under SAT, enter zip code, click on event for 2/17/09).

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 during 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.

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 or Carol Zepf at 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. Questions about what's available? Contact the McDonalds at 678/921-2015.

POPE FOOTBALL SPIRITWEAR is also still available. Contact Peter or Gaby McDonald at 678/921-2015 or Gaby2457@aol.com by December 21 for your last minute gifts.

CAUTION: TEEN DRIVERS AHEAD

As holiday parties are in full swing, it's important to reinforce the rules of the road with your teen. Too often teens drive while under the influence, but that influence extends beyond alcohol. In a national survey, 13 percent of high school seniors reported driving under the influence of marijuana, a number nearly equivalent to those who reported drinking and driving (14%). Talk to your teen about other driver distractions that can impair their driving abilities, like texting and talking on the phone while behind the wheel. In a recent survey, nearly 61% of 16- and 17-year-olds said they send text messages while driving, and 51% reported talking on the phone while driving. Let your teen know that these risky driving behaviors are more likely to cause crashes. Get the facts on drugged, drunk, and distracted driving: www.theantidrug.com/steerclear/pdfs/DrivingFactSheet.pdf.

GO HOUNDS!

Please make ptsa@popehs.ptsamail.com "an acceptable email address." It is used to distribute Hound Highlights. We will still communicate and subscribe through popehoundhighlights@comcast.net. Hound Highlights will also be posted on the www.popehigh.com website each Friday.