100 years give Six Mile a lot to celebrate

Town to unveil special history display during centennial dinner

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Six Mile is ready to commemorate its 100th birthday.

"We have a heritage that we should be proud of here in Six Mile so we're celebrating that," said Kenneth Spears, chairman of the Six Mile centennial committee, which has been planning the event.

Spears said the celebration kicked off with the annual Six Mile Christmas parade on Dec. 4, which tied into the centennial with a theme of "Christmas Celebrations: Past and Present."

Six Mile Mayor John Wade said an invitation-only dinner event to celebrate the centennial is planned for 6 p.m. today at the cafeteria of Six Mile Elementary School, where the featured speaker will be U.S. Sen. Lindsey Graham.

Wade said about 130 people are expected to come to the event, from former and current town council members, mayors and town clerks to area pastors, state lawmakers, centennial committee members and school officials.

A collection of historical articles, photographs and other information will be unveiled to those gathered that evening as well, Wade said.

As part of the centennial, those involved have worked on the display that includes panels with Six Mile memorabilia and information dating back to before 1910 — the year the town was incorporated — to the present.

Wade said panels will be put up in the community room at Town Hall and said that after the dinner buses will shuttle attendees to see the display in shifts.

See 100 on page 5B

"It will be a walk-through presentation while the rest of them are listening to music," he said.

The display will be permanent, Wade said.

He said the public will be able to see the display Saturday from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. and said from then on people will be able to see it at Town Hall when the building is open for normal business hours.

"It's valuable to save that information for generations to come," Wade said.

"It gives us a chance to reflect back and look back and see where we were and where we've come and have a record of it," he said.

Wade and Spears said the panels have information about everything from firefighters, festivals and significant events to agriculture, school information and wars, and said they will have the decades emphasized over the years.

Katherine Willimon, who lives in Six Mile, said she's glad the town is commemorating the centennial and said she plans to go to the community room at Town Hall to see the display, too.

"I think it's really neat because Six Mile has a lot of history," Willimon said. "It's more than what a lot of people realize."

She said the area has new housing developments and new people moving in and said it will be fun for the newcomers to see the history and how the area has grown over the years as well.

Wade said the town started working on the centennial about 18 months ago and said the centennial committee was created around the first of the year.

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