

# Open Line

A Monthly Newsletter for City of Auburn Citizens

September 2001

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## Open Line

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City of Auburn



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## Street and Sidewalk Projects Underway

For a number of years, the City Council has placed a high priority on street maintenance, street and intersection improvements, and sidewalk construction. The heavy investment in this segment of the City's infrastructure is based on concern for the safety and convenience of Auburn's citizens. Several street and sidewalk projects are under construction and will soon be nearing completion.

A new sidewalk on South College Street from Reese Avenue to Donahue Drive is underway. This sidewalk is one component of the many improvements planned for this major entrance to the City. Other roadway enhancements to South College include landscaped medians, new "Welcome to Auburn" brick signage, road widening to five lanes, turn lanes, curbing, and gutters. A sidewalk is also planned on South College Street from East University Drive to Veterans Boulevard.

Alabama Power has recently completed installation of most of the street lights on the East Glenn Avenue reroute. These lights were installed with underground wiring and will provide a safer environment for travelers on this stretch of roadway. The last few lights will be installed pending notification of FAA approval that these lights will not interfere with airport operations.

The sidewalk on South Gay Street from Samford Avenue to Camellia Drive is another project that is under construction. This sidewalk will provide an important pedestrian link from the downtown area to Salmon Park and the City-owned property at the corner of Camellia Drive and South Gay Street.

Each year the City Council allocates money in the budget for resurfacing to maintain the quality of Auburn's streets and roadways. The summer resurfacing bids were opened in

late July, and the lowest bidder for the work was D&J Enterprises, Inc. The roads included in this resurfacing project are Bent Creek Road, Cherry Street, Deer Run Road, S. Gay Street (Woodfield to Camellia), Hampton Drive, Thach Avenue (Armstrong to Ross), Waterford Road, Wildwood Drive, Willow Creek Road, Hickory Lane (North Cedar Brook to cul-de-sac), Judd Avenue, and the Middlebrook Lane cul-de-sac. Construction began in August and is scheduled to be complete in November.



The sidewalk on South College Street is under construction.



The new sidewalk on South Gay Street is underway.

(Continued on page 2)

# Auburn's Newest Professional

Tim Logiotatos, Professional Engineer, will be the City's new environmental engineer. His responsibilities will include overseeing and coordinating the Phase II Storm Water permitting process, administering erosion control and storm water detention ordinances, conducting engineering design reviews, and reviewing the development related environmental issues. Tim will also work with environmental organizations and clubs.

Tim graduated from Auburn University in 1987 with a Bachelor's Degree of Science in Civil Engineering. He was employed with Roy F. Weston for nine years as an

environmental engineer and with the Montgomery Water Works and Sanitary Sewer Board for almost four years. Tim has also worked with the Environmental Protection

Agency and has experience with



landfills and controlling run-off and erosion.

The City feels fortunate to have someone of Tim's talent join the staff in this important role of helping to protect Auburn's environment.

## Labor Day Holiday Closure

City Hall will be closed on Labor Day, Monday, September 3. The collection of garbage, trash, and recycling will be changed for that week. Monday's route will be collected on Tuesday, September 4. Tuesday's route will be collected on Wednesday, September 5. Wednesday's route will be collected on Thursday, September 6. Thursday's route will be collected on Friday, September 7.

## Street and Sidewalk...

*(Continued from page 1)*

Traffic light installations at North Dean Road at East University Drive and Moore's Mill Road at Grove Hill Road are also nearing completion.

Auburn's new bike trail, Shell Toomer Bike Trail, runs along Shell Toomer Parkway from Wright's Mill Road to US 29. The ribbon cutting ceremony for the Shell Toomer Bike Trail will be held near the entrance of Chewacla Park on September 15 at 10:00 a.m. This event will include light refreshments and a 2-mile bike ride. For more information on this event, contact Steve Miller at 887-4942.

Please use caution as you travel in the areas that are under construction. We appreciate your patience as we strive to maintain Auburn's roadways in a good condition and improve our transportation network.

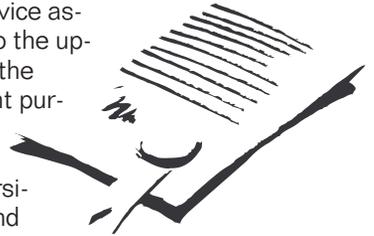


Summer street resurfacing has begun.

## City's Financial Rating

Moody's Rating Service assigned an Aa3 rating to the upcoming bond issue for the sewage treatment plant purchase and expansion.

Moody's cited the City's "continued diversification and growth" and "sound financial position" as the main reasons for this excellent rating. Specifically, the rating agency stated that the City's "location of several high-tech, light industrial, manufacturing, and distribution companies" contributed the City's economic stability. Moody's also stated that the City's sound financial position was due to "expenditure controls coupled with continued growth in sales tax and occupational license fee revenues."

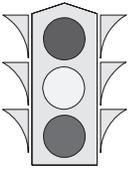


## Meeting Schedule

- City Council** - September 4, 7:30 PM, Council Chamber.
- Board of Zoning Adjustment** - September 5, 4:30 PM, Council Chamber.
- Tree Commission** - September 6, 4:00 PM, Development Services Building Conference Room.
- Water Works Board** - September 10, 4:00 PM, Engineering Conference Room.
- Cemeteries Advisory Board** - September 10, 4:00 PM, Dean Road Recreation Center.
- Park & Recreation Advisory Board** - September 10, 6:00 PM, Dean Road Recreation Center.
- Board of Education** - September 11, 6:00 PM, AHS Multi-Media Room.
- Planning Commission** - September 13, 5:00 PM, Council Chamber.
- City Council** - September 18, 7:30 PM, Council Chamber.
- Historic Preservation** - September 25, 3:00 PM, Development Services Building Conference Room.
- Library Board** - September 27, 7:00 PM, Library Board Room.

*-Meeting times and places are subject to change-*

# Red Means S-T-O-P!!



Although all drivers are aware that a red light at a traffic signal means that the driver should stop the vehicle, the rule is occasionally ignored at many intersections, sometimes with deadly results. Drivers who make a split-second decision to try to beat a red light are to blame for the deaths of more than 800 people and an estimated 200,000 injuries in the United States each year, according to the Insurance Institute for Highway Safety. More than half of the people who died in such crashes were pedestrians and occupants of other vehicles.

In conjunction with "National Stop on Red Week" during September 1-7, the City of Auburn is asking all residents to make an extra effort to stop at all red lights. This program was established by the Federal Highway Administration in 1995 to raise awareness of the dangers of red light running, re-establish respect for traffic signals, enhance the safety of drivers and pedestrians, and help reduce fatalities. Since crashes caused by running red lights can be avoided, please make an extra effort to obey the law and keep Auburn's streets safe.

## Avoiding the Bite of Mosquitoes

Over the past couple of months there has been public concern and media coverage on mosquitoes and the viral disease Eastern Equine Encephalitis (EEE).



Humans may be infected with EEE through mosquitoes that are the primary transmitter of this disease to people. The Lee County Extension Service is encouraging citizens to take precautionary steps to avoid mosquito bites. Here are a few precautionary steps that can be taken:

- Prevent or limit exposure to mosquitoes by avoiding outdoor activities between dusk and dawn when mosquitoes are most active.
- When outdoors, wear clothing that covers arms and legs and use insect repellents.
- Since adult mosquitoes rest on dense vegetation during the day, cut tall weeds, and keep shrubs and trees trimmed away from the house to increase air circulation.
- Clean and chlorinate pools that are not in use.
- Invert, cover, or remove any containers that could hold water such as buckets, birdbaths, wheelbarrows, and wading pools.
- Change the water in pet bowls daily.
- Clean debris from rain gutters.
- Install or repair screens and caulk cracks and crevices where insects can enter the home.
- Use yard foggers or sprays to repel mosquitoes.

For additional information on preventing mosquito bites, please contact the Lee County Extension Service at 749-3353 or visit [www.aces.edu/department/extcomm/publications/anr/anr-1116/anr-1116.htm](http://www.aces.edu/department/extcomm/publications/anr/anr-1116/anr-1116.htm).

## All Aboard!

Citizens interested in renting the City of Auburn's trolley can simply contact the Parks and Recreation Department at 887-4930. Rental fees range from \$100 for 1-4 hours to \$200 for 4-8 hours plus the cost of a driver.

Renters need to provide an itinerary for the trolley at least 24 hours prior to the event, and limit travel within the City limits.



## City's Biennial Budget Award Winning

The City's first biennial budget has received the Distinguished Budget Presentation Award from the Government Finance Officers Association (GFOA) which is the highest form of recognition in governmental budgeting and the only national award given for outstanding governmental budgeting. This is the sixth time GFOA has awarded the City of Auburn this distinctive recognition. Birmingham and Jefferson County are the only other Alabama governments to win the budget award.

The award represents a significant achievement by the City of Auburn and reflects the commitment the City Council members, Office of the City Manager, and the Finance Department have to meet the highest principles of governmental budgeting.

The GFOA is a nonprofit professional association, serving 14,000 government finance professionals throughout North America and has given more than 900 governmental entities the Distinguished Budget Presentation Award. To learn more about GFOA and this award, visit the GFOA web site at [www.gfoa.org](http://www.gfoa.org).

## Board Vacancies

The following vacancies were announced at the August 21 City Council meeting and appointments will be made at the September 18 City Council meeting:

- **Board of Zoning Adjustment**
- **Lee County Youth Development Center Board (3)**
- **Parks and Recreation Advisory Board**
- **Planning Commission (2)**
- **Tree Commission**

Two vacancies on the **Industrial Development Board** will be announced at the September 4 City Council meeting and appointments will be made at the October 2 City Council meeting.

Citizens interested in serving are encouraged to contact one of their City Council members or notify the City Manager's Office.

**Please make  
note of our  
new contact  
numbers at  
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Superintendent  
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**up  
COMING  
EVENTS**

The **Invitational Exhibition: Realism** continues at the Jan Dempsey Community Art Center Art Gallery until September 29. This exhibition includes representational works by four nationally

recognized artists. Admission is free.

**Salmagundi**, offered to children in grades K-5 on the first Wednesday of every month, will meet from 3:30 p.m. – 4:30 p.m. in the Youth Services area at the Auburn Public Library on September 5. The program theme will be “making a scrapbook.” For more information, contact Eve Kneeland at 887-4997.

The **Young Adult Coffeehouse** will be held from 6:30 p.m. – 7:30 p.m. on September 6 in the Youth Services area at the Auburn Public Library. Auburn children in grades 6th – 12th are invited to join in “making a zine book.” For more information, contact Eve Kneeland at 887-4997.

The **Instant Piano for Hopelessly Busy People Workshop** will be held on September 10 from 6:00-9:00 p.m. at Dean Road Recreation Center. The workshop is for ages 13 years and older. The cost is \$30.00 for registration and \$20.00 for materials. Learn how to read music notation and play any pop tune with both hands. For additional information call Lewis Moore at (706) 645-2119.

The **ASA Coed Major Slow Pitch National Championship** will be held at the Auburn Softball Complex during September 14-16. Opening ceremonies will be held on September 14 at 6:30 p.m. Daily tickets are \$4.00 for adults and \$3.00 for children.

The **Alabama State Therapeutics Conference**, hosted by the City’s Parks and Recreation Department, will be held at the Jan Dempsey Community Arts Center on September 21. For additional information call Donna Forbus at 887-4930.

The **Beanie Baby Lunch** will be held on Saturday, September 22 from 10:00 - 11:30 a.m. at Frank Brown Recreation Center. This event is for children ages 3-12 and will cost \$2.00. Gather your special “Beanies” for a morning of fun. There will be refreshments, entertainment, and door prizes. Reservations are preferred. For additional information or to make your reservation, call Donna Forbus at 887-4930.

The **Auburn Community Orchestra** will be performing its “Singing in the Park” concert on Sunday, September 23 at 5:00 p.m. at Kiesel Park. Enlighten your senses with the beautiful sounds of the Auburn Community Orchestra conducted by Howard Goldstein. Bring your lawn chairs, a picnic supper, and enjoy live outdoor music. Admission is free.

A **City election** will be held on October 23 on the use of the Five Mill Tax Fund to develop a cemetery, soccer complex, and passive park. Look for more details in the October issue of *Open Line*.

**Looking for a Job?**

The City of Auburn currently has full-time and part-time positions in a wide range of areas. Some of the current full-time job openings include:

- Traffic Signal Technician** (\$2,147.40 - \$2,489.43/month)
- Service Technician - Vehicle Maintenance** (\$10.24/hour)
- Mapping Assistant** (\$1,774.71 to \$2,057.38/month)
- Youth Enrichment Coordinator** (\$2,147.40 - \$2,489.43/month)

For updated job opportunities, visit the City’s website at [www.auburnalabama.org](http://www.auburnalabama.org), the Alabama State Employment Office, or call the City’s job line at 501-7250. The City of Auburn is an equal opportunity employer. Come join a winning team of employees at the City of Auburn!

Auburn residents of all ages are invited to participate in **Auburn Community Tennis**. This group will offer a variety of activities throughout the year to help bring tennis players together. If you would like to get involved in this Parks and Recreation program, please contact David Hume at 887-4935.

