

Open Line

A Monthly Newsletter for City of Auburn Citizens

October 2005

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City of Auburn

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Making Strides to be a Pedestrian-Friendly City

Auburn is a community with a large number of pedestrians. Due to the volume of pedestrian traffic, the City has made several efforts to make Auburn a pedestrian-friendly community. These efforts are shown in the City's ongoing installation of sidewalks and bike lanes, as well as upgrades to crosswalks in the downtown area. However, drivers are often not alert to pedestrians or bicyclists using crosswalks. Drivers should slow down when approaching a crosswalk, yield to pedestrians, and not attempt to pass in front of or around pedestrians while they are in a crosswalk. Most importantly, obey the posted speed limit. The risk of a pedestrian being seriously injured or killed from a collision rises rapidly with increasing speeds.



In the fall, many citizens enjoy walking for leisure or exercise. Citizens who enjoy walking may keep the following tips in mind for safety:

- If one is available, walk on a sidewalk to be a safe distance from automobile traffic.
- Always walk on your left and face oncoming traffic.
- Wear reflective clothing between the waist and shoulders on the front and back from one-half hour before sunset until one-half hour before sunrise to help drivers identify the presence of a pedestrian. This is a City ordinance.
- Walk with a friend, especially early in the morning and in the evening. If you have to walk alone, call someone and tell them where you are going and when you will be back.
- Vary your schedule or your route.
- Be sure to wait at an intersection for the "walk" signal at a crosswalk.

By working together to ensure that drivers are watchful for pedestrians and walkers follow the suggested safety tips, we can make sure that pedestrians are safe in Auburn. For more information on the City's pedestrian-friendly efforts, contact the Office of the City Manager at 501-7260.



Job Vacancies

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



- Finance Information Officer (\$2,942.42-3,513.41/month)
- Police Officer (\$2,665.69-3,182.97/month)

For updated job opportunities, visit the City's website at www.auburnalabama.org, contact the Alabama State Employment Office, or call the City's job line at 501-7250. The City of Auburn is an equal opportunity employer.

Meeting Schedule

Cemetery Advisory Board - October 3, 4:00 PM, Dean Road Recreation Center.

Park & Recreation Advisory Board - October 4, 5:30 PM, Dean Road Recreation Center.

City Council - October 4, 7:30 PM, Council Chamber.

Tree Commission - October 5, 4:30 PM, City of Auburn Meeting Room, 122 Tichenor Avenue.

Board of Zoning Adjustment - October 5, 4:30 PM, Council Chamber.

Water Works Board - October 10, 4:00 PM, Bailey-Alexander Complex Conference Room, 1501 West Samford Avenue.

Greenspace Advisory Board - October 11, 11:30 AM, City of Auburn Meeting Room, 122 Tichenor Avenue.

Historic Preservation Commission - Tuesday, October 11, 4:00 PM, Jan Dempsey Community Arts Center.

Board of Education - October 11, 6:00 PM, AHS Multi-Media Room.

Planning Commission - October 13, 5:00 PM, Council Chamber.

City Council - October 18, 7:30 PM, Council Chamber.

Bicycle Committee - October 25, 7:00 PM, Development Services Building, 171 North Ross Street.

Park & Recreation Advisory Board - November 1, 5:30 PM, Dean Road Recreation Center.

City Council - November 1, 7:30 PM, Council Chamber.

Tree Commission - November 2, 4:30 PM, City of Auburn Meeting Room, 122 Tichenor Avenue.

Board of Zoning Adjustment - November 2, 4:30 PM, Council Chamber.

- Meeting times and places are subject to change -

City of Auburn Surplus Property Available on the Internet

The City of Auburn is now offering a new program for the sale of surplus items. As of July 25, 2005, all surplus property is being sold via the Internet through an on-line auction service, GovDeals. This online auction service will replace the "traditional" auctions held once a year.



Citizens will be offered the opportunity to purchase surplus property year-round. Registration is required for bidding. All items are sold "as is," and acceptable methods of payment include cash, money order, and cashier's check. Please review the terms and conditions before bidding.

To find out what surplus items the City currently has available for auction, visit GovDeals at www.govdeals.com, use the advanced search option, and select Auburn, Alabama from the list of sellers. If Auburn is not listed, there are no surplus items currently available for auction.

For questions about using the GovDeals website, please contact GovDeals at (800) 613-0156.

For additional information about the City's surplus items, please contact Karen Broome at 501-7229 or kbroome@auburnalabama.org.

Celebrate Teen Read Week at the Auburn Public Library

The Auburn Public Library presents Teen Read Week, October 16-21 at the Auburn Public Library. Special programs for the week include a discussion on dragons in literature on Tuesday, October 18 at 4:30 p.m. and a movie and popcorn on Thursday, October 20 at 6:30 p.m. The programs are open to youth in grades 6-12. For more information, contact Eve Kneeland at 501-3196.



Change Your Clock – Change Your Battery

Daylight Saving Time ends October 30. Remember to move your clocks back one hour and change the batteries in your smoke detectors.



Board Vacancies

• Three vacancies on the **Tree Commission** will be announced at the October 4 City Council meeting and will be filled at the November 1 meeting. The incumbents are eligible for reappointment.

• One vacancy on the **Educational Building Authority of the City of Auburn** will be announced at the October 4 City Council meeting and will be filled at the November 1 meeting. The incumbent has served two terms.

• Two vacancies on the **Parks & Recreation Advisory Board** will be announced at the October 18 City Council meeting and will be filled at the November 15 meeting. The incumbents are eligible for reappointment.



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

Keep Your Trash Pile from Turning into a Pumpkin Patch

The City of Auburn requests that residents place old pumpkins in their City issued roll-out garbage carts instead of placing them in the trash pile at the curb. Pumpkins are considered a food item and must be disposed of in a sanitary landfill. Trash piles should only consist of discarded shrubbery clippings, grass clippings, weeds, fallen leaves, vines, branches, and limbs. For questions concerning items that are acceptable for garbage collection and trash piles, contact the Environmental Services Department at 501-3080.



Convenient Ways to Pay Your Water Bill



The Water Works Board offers customers several convenient payment options and locations, including:

- **The Bailey-Alexander Complex:** Water bill payments can be made at the Water Revenue Office in the new Bailey-Alexander Complex, located at 1501 West Samford Avenue at the intersection of Shug Jordan Parkway and West Samford Avenue, Monday-Friday from 7:30 a.m.-4:30 p.m. After hours payments may be left at the drop box located outside the Bailey-Alexander Complex.

- **Online:** To pay your water bill online, visit the City's website at www.auburnalabama.org and select "Pay my water bill" under the quick links. You will need your customer number and pin number to access your account. The customer number is located on the top right portion of your water bill. The pin number is located beside the customer number. Payments received after 8:00 p.m. CST will be posted to the next business day.

- **Bank Draft:** If you are interested in paying your bill through monthly bank draft, please call the Water Revenue Office at 501-3050.

- **City Hall:** Payments may be left in the drop box located inside City Hall at 144 Tichenor Avenue, Monday-Friday from 8:00 a.m.-5:00 p.m. After hours payments may be left in the drop box located outside City Hall on Tichenor Avenue, across from the Tichenor Avenue entrance to City Hall (near the mailboxes).

All payments left in a drop box must contain the remittance slip and be enclosed in an envelope. Cash payments should not be placed in a drop box; the Water Board cannot be held responsible for cash payments left in a drop box. For questions regarding water bill payment options or payment locations, contact the Water Revenue Office Monday-Friday between 7:30 a.m. and 4:30 p.m. at 501-3050.

Fall Concert Series...at Beautiful Kiesel Park.

Enjoy free outdoor evening entertainment this fall at Kiesel Park. The park is the perfect setting to listen to the sounds of local and regional musicians. Bring the family, a picnic, your lawn chairs, and maybe even the family dog and enjoy a relaxing evening under the stars. The 2005 Fall Concert Series will feature the following outstanding performances:

- October 6- Dave Potts, 2004 Kerrville New Folk Finalist
- October 13- Caterpillars of the Community
- October 16- Auburn High School Honor Band, "Concert in the Park" @ 1:30 p.m.
- October 20- 75th Anniversary Auburn Knights Orchestra
- October 27- KOOSTICO
- November 3- TBA

All concerts will begin at 6:00 p.m. and will end at 7:30 p.m., unless otherwise noted. For more information, contact Alison Hall at 501-2940.

Gay Street Construction Project Reminder

Auburn residents are reminded that beginning Monday, October 3, the City's Public Works Department has scheduled a milling, storm sewer construction, and resurfacing project for Gay Street between Glenn Avenue and Reese Avenue. Construction is expected to take place Monday - Friday from 7:00 a.m.-5:00 p.m. Citizens are advised to take alternate routes during this time.

Crews will be working diligently in an attempt to complete the project prior to the next Auburn University home football game on October 29. In the event of project construction delays, all work will cease at noon on Friday, October 28 and will not resume until the following Monday.

For more information on the Gay Street Construction project, contact the City's Public Works Department at 501-3000.



Annual Downtown Trick-or-Treat Celebration

Mayor Bill Ham, Jr. has declared that children may trick-or-treat in Auburn on Monday, October 31 from 6:00 p.m. until 8:00 p.m. only. During that time, the Police Division of the Public Safety Department will provide extra patrol in the City for children and their parents. It is hoped that only small children, accompanied by at least one adult, will participate in this event.



As an alternative to traditional neighborhood trick-or-treating, the 5th Annual Downtown Trick-or-Treat celebration will be held Monday, October 31 from 6:00 p.m. until 8:00 p.m. in downtown Auburn. This special event is for children 12 years and younger and is free to the public. Several downtown merchants have agreed to stay open late and be "Official Downtown Monster Merchants." Merchants will be giving away candy, coupons, and other goodies for the children. Participants are invited to only visit businesses displaying the "Official Downtown Monster Merchant" sign in their window. A parent or guardian must accompany children at this event. For more information, contact Alison Hall at 501-2940.



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up COMING EVENTS



First Friday for Homeschoolers will meet on October 7 from 10:00 a.m. – 11:00 a.m. at the Auburn Public Library. The program is offered to homeschoolers in grades K-5. This month's topic will center on pizza. For more information, contact Eve Kneeland at 501-3196.

Young Adult Coffeehouse, for students in grades 6-12, will meet October 7 from 6:30 – 7:30 p.m. at the Auburn Public Library to discuss *The Art of Pizza*. For more information, contact Eve Kneeland at 501-3196.



The Jan Dempsey Community Arts Center presents **Photo VII**, an annual juried photography exhibition. The exhibit is open to the public Monday-Friday from 8:00 a.m.–5:00 p.m. from October 7 through November 9 at the Jan Dempsey Community Arts Center. A Gallery Reception will be held on October 22 from 3:00 p.m.–5:00 p.m. Both the exhibit and the reception are free and open to the public. For more information, contact the Jan Dempsey Community Arts Center at 501-2963.



Storyteller Dolores Hydock and musical performers Pan Harmonium will present **Silence**, a funny and fascinating 13th Century tale, at the Jan Dempsey Community Arts Center on October 8 at 7:30 p.m. This program is co-sponsored by Friends of the Auburn Public Library and the Jan Dempsey Community Arts Center. For more information, contact Jennifer Brenton at 501-3190.

The Auburn Public Library presents **Drumming for Stress Relief** with John Scalici on October 13 at 6:30 p.m. at the Auburn Public Library. Drums will be provided and no prior experience is required. The event is free and open to participants ages 14 and older. For more information, contact Jennifer Brenton at 501-3190.

The **American Girls Club** will meet from 3:30-4:30 p.m. on October 14 at the Auburn Public Library. This month's meeting will feature Josefina. For more information, contact Eve Kneeland at 501-3196.

The **library book club** will meet on October 18 at 6:30 p.m. in the Auburn Public Library to discuss *Kindred* by Octavia Butler. Katherine Perry will be the guest speaker from Auburn University. For more information, contact Jennifer Brenton at 501-3190.



The **Auburn Housing Assistance Network** will hold a meeting on October 19 at 11:30 a.m. in the City Meeting Room, located at 122 Tichenor Avenue. Anyone interested in housing issues or how to receive assistance through the City of Auburn is encouraged to attend. For more information or to RSVP, contact Todd White at 501-7277 or at tmwhite@auburnalabama.org.

The Auburn Public Library will present a **puppet show** entitled *The Pizza Parlor* October 19 from 3:30 p.m.–4:30 p.m. at the Auburn Public Library. The show is free and open to all ages. For more information, contact Eve Kneeland at 501-3196.

Cellist Craig Hultgren will perform at the Auburn Public Library on October 19 at 6:30 p.m. The program, entitled *Solo Cello: from Bach to Electric*, will follow the progression of cello music from classical composer to contemporary works. The event is free and open to the public. For more information, contact Jennifer Brenton at 501-3190.

The **Auburn Area Community Theatre** presents Noel Coward's *Blithe Spirit* October 21-30 at the Jan Dempsey Community Arts Center. For information on ticket prices and show times, contact the Jan Dempsey Community Arts Center at 501-2963.



The Auburn Public Library will host its **Annual Halloween Party** on October 27 from 6:30 p.m.–7:30 p.m. at the Auburn Public Library. The party will feature special guest Clifford. This event is open to children ages preschool through 5th grade. For more information, contact Eve Kneeland at 501-3196.

The **Auburn Community Orchestra** will perform their second concert of the season on November 5 at 7:30 p.m. at Opelika High School. The event is free and open to the public. For more information, contact the Jan Dempsey Community Arts Center at 501-2963.



CityFest 2006 applications and sponsorships are now available. Are you interested in participating in Auburn CityFest 2006 as a food, arts and crafts, or non-profit vendor? If so, applications are currently available at Dean Road Recreation Center and may be picked up Monday–Friday from 8:00 a.m.–5:00 p.m. CityFest 2006 will be held Saturday, April 29 from 9:00 a.m.–5:00 p.m. at Kiesel Park. For more information or to find out about sponsorship opportunities, contact Parks and Recreation at 501-2930.



Be sure to visit Parks and Recreation's **Leisure Link** at www.auburnalabama.org/leisure to find out the latest information regarding registration for mini soccer camp, youth basketball, and much more. For more information, contact Parks and Recreation at 501-2930.

