

Open Line

A Monthly Newsletter for City of Auburn Citizens

October 2009

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City of Auburn



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Auburn Police Division Responds to Citizen Requests New Traffic Unit Patrolling City Streets

In response to citizen requests for more traffic patrols in the 2009 Citizen Survey, the Auburn Police Division created a new traffic unit to focus solely on traffic-related issues. In addition to regular patrols, two experienced patrol officers are now assigned full time to enforce traffic violations in business and residential areas, including speeding, seat belt use, school zone monitoring, rush hour problems, DUI enforcement, and other traffic concerns. The officers are assigned 12 hour shifts and are available during the heaviest traffic times of the day. Hours may be periodically adjusted to address special needs or situations.

Please visit www.auburnalabama.org/ps/police.asp or contact the City of Auburn Public Safety Department - Police Division at 501-3110 for more information.



Magnolia Avenue–Donahue Drive Intersection Improvements Completed



After much anticipation, the Magnolia Avenue - Donahue Drive Intersection Improvements Project was substantially completed in time for the beginning of Auburn University's fall semester in August. Improvements included the addition of left and right turn lanes at the intersection of Magnolia Avenue and Donahue Drive, resurfacing Magnolia Avenue from Gay Street to Donahue Drive, and sidewalk improvements. Stamped concrete crosswalks are tentatively scheduled for installation in late fall. Funding for the project, totaling more than \$1.4 million, was approved by Auburn voters earlier this year as part of the Special Five Mill Projects Referendum.

Based on input from citizens in the 2009 Citizen Survey, Auburn officials continue to make the management of traffic flow and congestion a top priority for improvement over the next two years. Several additional projects aimed at easing traffic flow are underway or were previously completed. Earlier this year, the extension of East Samford Avenue to East Glenn Avenue opened to traffic. Construction is nearing completion at Martin Luther King Jr. Drive/AL Highway 14 and Donahue Drive, and plans are currently underway to replace the North Donahue Drive Bridge and the Moores Mill Bridge, crossing Interstate 85. A list of Public Works projects and their status is available to the public online at www.auburnalabama.org/pw/status.asp.

The City of Auburn appreciates its citizens and businesses for their patience during the construction process for the Magnolia Avenue - Donahue Drive Project. Thank you for the opportunity to continue to make Auburn a better place to live and work.

For more information, please visit www.auburnalabama.org/pw or contact the City of Auburn Public Works Department at 501-3000.

Lending a Voice to Auburn's Future...

Citizens encouraged to attend public meetings for CompPlan 2030

The City of Auburn invites you to share your ideas for Auburn's future in a series of public meetings designed to give citizens a voice in the development of a new comprehensive plan for the City of Auburn. The first public meeting for CompPlan 2030 will be held on Tuesday, October 13 at a time and location to be determined. The meeting will begin with a presentation, followed by breakout groups where citizens will be able to offer input on this comprehensive plan for Auburn's future.

CompPlan 2030 is being developed to further the City of Auburn's mission to provide economical delivery of quality services, created and designed in response to the needs of its citizens, rather than by habit or tradition. The City of Auburn Planning Department seeks to accomplish this mission by encouraging that growth be well planned and managed, so that the result is an attractive and sustainable built environment where natural resources are protected and conserved.

As the future land use and transportation plan for the City of Auburn, CompPlan 2030 will focus on topics including land use, transportation systems, natural systems, schools, parks and recreation facilities, and utilities. The plan will make recommendations for Auburn's future based on community input, analysis of existing conditions, the Auburn Interactive Growth Model (AIGM), and the best practices of urban planning.

As part of Auburn's open government process, citizens are encouraged to participate in CompPlan 2030 and help determine the future of the Loveliest Village on the Plains. For more information, including the latest news, announcements, and information on the public meetings, please visit www.auburnalabama.org/CompPlan2030, or contact Justin Steinmann in the City of Auburn Planning Department at jsteinmann@auburnalabama.org or call 501-3045.

City of Auburn Non-Emergency Number

Please note the City of Auburn's 24-hour non-emergency number is 501-3100. Citizens are encouraged to use this number when contacting the Public Safety Department with non-emergency requests and issues such as cars blocking the roadway and noise complaints. In addition, this number may be used for all after-hours issues.

This number was established to keep 911 lines open for true emergencies. In the event of a true emergency, please dial 9-1-1.

Board Vacancies

- Three vacancies on the **Tree Commission** will be announced at the October 6 City Council meeting.
- Two vacancies on the **Parks and Recreation Advisory Board** will be announced at the October 20 City Council meeting.



Citizens interested in serving are encouraged to contact their City Council member or notify the City Manager's Office at webocm@auburnalabama.org or call 501-7260.

National League of Cities Prescription Discount Card Available October 1

The City of Auburn and the National League of Cities have partnered on a new program to help Auburn citizens save money on prescription medicines not covered by insurance. Beginning October 1, all Auburn citizens are eligible to receive a FREE prescription discount card that will enable them to save an average of 20% off the price of commonly prescribed medications at participating pharmacies. Discount cards will be available for pick up at the following locations:

- Auburn City Hall (144 Tichenor Avenue)
- Auburn Public Library (749 East Thach Avenue)
- Boykin Community Center (400 Boykin Street)
- Dean Road Recreation Center (307 South Dean Road)

For more information, please visit www.caremark.com/nlc.

MEETING SCHEDULE

OCTOBER

- 2 Tree Commission**, 11:30 a.m., Chamber of Commerce Conference Room
- 5 Cemeteries Advisory Board**, 4 p.m., Dean Road Recreation Center
- 6 Industrial Development Board**, 4 p.m., City Hall Conference Room
- Parks & Recreation Advisory Board**, 5:15 p.m., Dean Road Recreation Center
- City Council**, 7 p.m., Council Chamber
- 7 Board of Zoning Adjustment**, 4:30 p.m., Council Chamber
- 8 Planning Commission**, 5 p.m., Council Chamber
- 13 Greenspace Advisory Board**, 11:30 a.m., City Meeting Room
- Historic Preservation Commission**, 4 p.m., Development Services Building
- Board of Education**, 6 p.m., AHS Multi-Media Room
- 20 City Council**, 7 p.m., Council Chamber
- 22 Water Works Board**, 4 p.m., Water Board Conference Room
- 27 Bicycle Committee**, 7 p.m., Development Services Building

Meeting times and places are subject to change.

For more information, including a map of City meeting locations, please visit www.auburnalabama.org/boards.

FEMA Floodplain Maps and Flood Insurance Study Update

90-Day Appeal and Protest Period Underway

Lee County and the City of Auburn are in the process of updating their Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) Floodplain Maps and Flood Insurance Study. Property owners affected by the proposed floodplain have been notified by mail. FEMA has now initiated the 90-day appeal and protest period. Property owners interested in drafting an appeal or protest are encouraged to contact the City of Auburn Public Works Department prior to submitting their appeal. The 90-day period will end on November 2. The proposed maps are scheduled to go into effect in July 2010.

Visit www.auburnalabama.org/fema/maps.asp for an interactive map of the current and proposed FEMA floodplains. Property owners are encouraged to visit the site to determine if their property is in the proposed floodplain.

For more information, please visit the City's FEMA webpage at www.auburnalabama.org/fema or contact the City of Auburn Public Works Department at 501-3000 or webpw@auburnalabama.org.

Enjoy FREE Fall Entertainment at the Sundown Concert Series at Kiesel Park

Join the City of Auburn Parks and Recreation Department as we present the remaining performances in the 2009 Sundown Concert Series at Kiesel Park on Thursday evenings this fall. Enjoy FREE, live shows from your favorite local and regional musicians. Concerts begin at 6 p.m. Bring your family, a picnic, lawn chairs or a blanket, and the family dog and enjoy an evening of entertainment under the stars. Don't miss the remaining performances in the series:

October 1	Satin Soul
October 8	Old Soul
October 15	Auburn Road
October 22	Spoonful James

The Sundown Concert Series at Kiesel Park is a free, family-friendly event. No alcohol, please. For more information, please visit www.auburnalabama.org/parks and click on the special events button or contact the City of Auburn Parks and Recreation Department at 501-2930.



Make Your Presence Known...

Bicyclists, joggers, and pedestrians reminded to wear reflective gear

With 34 miles of bicycle and multi-use paths and over 75 miles of sidewalk, it's no wonder Auburn citizens enjoy seeking alternative routes of transportation such as bicycling and walking. When you're out biking, jogging, or walking, don't forget to think safety first.

The law requires pedestrians and joggers to wear reflective material between the waist and shoulders on the front and back of clothing/outerwear for maximum visibility. Make sure motorists can see you from a distance of at least 500 feet by wearing reflective clothing between the hours of 30 minutes before sunset until 30 minutes before sunrise. Cyclists are required to have an operating headlight on the front of their bicycle and reflectors on the front and rear spokes of the wheels and pedals.

By working together, we can help make Auburn's roadways safer for cyclists, joggers, pedestrians, and motorists. For more information, please contact Brandy Ezelle in the City of Auburn Public Works Department at 501-3029.

Visibility requirements are set forth in Chapter 13-11 of the City Code.
www.auburnalabama.org/code



Neighborhood & Downtown TRICK-OR-TREAT Thursday, October 29

The City of Auburn will hold neighborhood and downtown trick-or-treat on Thursday, October 29 from 6 - 8 p.m. During this time, the Auburn Police Division will provide extra patrols throughout the City for children and their parents/guardians. Due to high volumes of traffic and a large influx of fans during Auburn University home football weekends, the date change was necessary in order to provide the maximum number of patrols for Auburn citizens.

Looking for an alternative to traditional door-to-door trick-or-treating? Join the City of Auburn Parks and Recreation Department for Downtown Trick-or-Treat on Thursday, October 29 from 6 - 8 p.m. This FREE, family-friendly event features giveaways from downtown merchants such as candy, coupons, and small prizes. Live musical entertainment from the Auburn University Steel Drum Band will be provided, and don't miss your chance to enter *The Best Costume Contest*. Bring your favorite four-legged friend and enter them for a chance to win *The Best Pet Costume Contest*. New this year, citizens are encouraged to bring a non-perishable food item for the 1st Annual Carve a Bite Out of Hunger Food Drive, benefitting the Food Bank of East Alabama. Collection bins will be placed throughout downtown.

Downtown Trick-or-Treat is for children ages 12 years and under. All children must be accompanied by a parent or guardian. Downtown streets are subject to closing during the event. Please visit our website at www.auburnalabama.org for the latest information on street closings.

For more information, or if your business or organization would like to participate, please contact the City of Auburn Parks and Recreation Department at 501-2930.



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Open Line Feedback

Do you have any suggestions, feedback, or story ideas that you would like to share? If so, please contact us at openline@auburnlabama.org or call 501-7255.

up COMING EVENTS

Due to space considerations, we are unable to publicize any events that are not directly affiliated with a City department.



Now Showing and Coming Soon...Jan Dempsey Community Arts Center Exhibitions - Mark your calendar for the following Jan Dempsey Community Arts Center Exhibitions. The exhibits are free and open to the public Monday - Friday from 8 a.m. - 5 p.m. For more information, contact the Arts Center at 501-2963.

- **Special Works**, September 16 - October 14. An exhibition featuring artwork on loan from area residents.
- **Photo XI**, October 16 - November 30. Annual juried exhibition of photographs by regional artists and photographers.

Mondays, Wednesdays, and Fridays in October...Auburn Stride Walkers - Citizens of all ages are invited to join the Auburn Stride Walkers Club. The club meets at various City walking trails on Mondays, Wednesdays, and Fridays at 9 a.m. Schedules are posted on the City's website at www.auburnlabama.org/parks/stridewalkers.asp. Participation is free. For more information, contact Melissa Weldon at 501-2946 or Dee Watson at 501-2948.



Each Week in October...Auburn Public Library Story Times for Children - Join the Auburn Public Library as they host special story times for children ages 6 months - 5 years and their caregivers. All story times are held at 10 a.m. For more information, visit www.auburnlabama.org/library or contact Youth Services at 501-3196.

- **Tuesdays** - Baby Time (ages 6 - 18 months)
- **Wednesdays** - Preschool Story Time (ages 3 - 5 years)
- **Thursdays** - Toddler Time (ages 18 months - 3 years)



October 2...First Friday Night Tennis Mixer - Join the Auburn Community Tennis Association (ACTA) for the First Friday Night Tennis Mixer on October 2 at 6:30 p.m. at the City of Auburn/Auburn University Yarbrough Tennis Center. Citizens 19 and up are encouraged to come play. All levels of play are welcome. No partner necessary. The event will be held rain or shine. Yarbrough Tennis Center non-member court fees apply. For more information, contact the Yarbrough Tennis Center at 501-2920.

October 3... High Ropes Challenge - Youth ages 12 - 15 are invited to join the City of Auburn Parks and Recreation Department for a high ropes challenge on the Auburn University High Ropes Course on October 3 from 7:30 a.m. - 12:30 p.m. The cost is \$30. Participants must pre-register. For more information, or to register, contact Melissa Weldon at 501-2946

October 4 - 10...Space Week at the Auburn Public Library - Youth in grades K - 8 are invited to join the Auburn Public Library for some out of this world fun during Space Week, October 4 - 10. Events include a spaced-themed movie, guest author, speakers, and special activities. For more information, visit www.auburnlabama.org/library or contact Youth Services at 501-3196.



October 7...Magic Tree House Club - Youth in grades K - 5 are invited to join the Auburn Public Library for the Magic Tree House Club on October 7 at 3:30 p.m. This month's featured book title is *Mummies in the Morning*. For more information, visit www.auburnlabama.org/library or contact Youth Services at 501-3196.

Beginning October 12...Youth Winter Basketball Registration - Register for youth winter basketball beginning October 12 - November 1. Registration will be held weekdays from 8 a.m. - 5 p.m. at the Dean Road Recreation Center. Youth basketball is for participants ages 6 - 13 years. Players on school teams are not eligible to participate. Tryouts will be held the week following registration. Players must be registered to attend tryouts. The season begins in December and continues through February. For more information, contact the Dean Road Recreation Center at 501-2930.



October 13...Puppet Show - Youth of all ages are invited to join the Auburn Public Library for a puppet show entitled *There's a Monster Hiding in My Closet!* on October 13 at 3:30 p.m. For more information, visit www.auburnlabama.org/library or contact Youth Services at 501-3196.

October 18 - 24...Teen Read Week at the Auburn Public Library - Youth in grades 6th - 12th are invited to "Read Beyond Reality @ Your Library" during Teen Read Week, October 18 - 24 at the Auburn Public Library. Events include a movie, book discussions, and activities throughout the week. For more information, visit www.auburnlabama.org/library or contact Youth Services at 501-3196.



October 20... Auburn Public Library Book Club - The Auburn Public Library Book Club will meet October 20 at 6:30 p.m. For more information, including October's topic, visit www.auburnlabama.org/library or contact the Reference Desk at 501-3195.



October 22...American Girls Club - Youth in grades K - 5 are invited to join the American Girls Club at the Auburn Public Library on October 22 at 3:30 p.m. This month's featured character is Julie. For more information, visit www.auburnlabama.org/library or contact Youth Services at 501-3196.



October 27...Auburn Public Library Halloween Party - Youth ages 3 - 11 are invited to join the Auburn Public Library for their Halloween Party on October 27 from 6 - 7 p.m. Wear your costume and join us for special Halloween-themed stories, crafts, and activities. For more information, visit www.auburnlabama.org/library or contact Youth Services at 501-3195.

November 5...Guest Author at Auburn Public Library - Join the Auburn Public Library as they host Pulitzer Prize nominated author Jack Sacco on November 5 at 2 p.m. Sacco will present a discussion on his book, *The Birds Never Sing*, a realistic and harrowing tale of an American GI in World War II, as seen through the eyes of his father. For more information, visit www.auburnlabama.org/library or contact the Reference Desk at 501-3195.



April 24, 2010...Auburn CityFest 2010 - Auburn CityFest 2010 applications for fine arts, arts & crafts, food, and non-profit exhibitors are now available on the CityFest website at www.auburncityfest.com. Interested in participating in the 10th Anniversary of Auburn CityFest? Space is limited, so be sure to apply early! Sponsorships are also available. Auburn's largest, free outdoor arts and crafts festival will be held on April 24, 2010 from 9 a.m. - 4 p.m. For more information, or to download an application, please visit www.auburncityfest.com or contact the Auburn CityFest Headquarters at 501-2930.

