

Open Line

A Monthly Newsletter for City of Auburn Citizens

April 2011

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City of Auburn



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Auburn CityFest 2011

Presented by the Opelika-Auburn News

It's almost time for one of Auburn's favorite spring traditions! Auburn CityFest 2011, presented by the Opelika-Auburn News, is set for Saturday, April 30 from 9 a.m. – 4 p.m. at Kiesel Park. CityFest is Auburn's largest, FREE, outdoor festival featuring live music, children's activities, arts & crafts and fine arts exhibitors, food, non-profit booths, and much more!

Festival goers will have the opportunity to visit fine arts and arts & crafts exhibitors selling everything from paintings, pottery, sculpture and prints to jewelry, hand-woven baskets, children's clothing, and much more. Be sure to visit the non-profit showcase, the children's art exhibition, and the ArtFest tent. Don't miss special appearances by Aubie throughout the day. Explore birds of prey at the Southeastern Raptor Center tent and don't miss a chance to see demonstrations and educational programs by the Auburn Fire Division, Auburn Police Division, and the Environmental Services Department.

Children will enjoy an adventure through the Children's Imagination Station, complete with inflatable games and performances by the Bama Air Dogs and Lew-e the Clown. Other children's activities include face painting, the Gamma Phi Beta carnival, and a world of interactive storytelling with Sean Driscoll of The Story Ship. New this year, kids can hop aboard My Big Green Bus and enjoy gymnastics, games, and free play. Music lovers will enjoy performances by folk musician Dave Potts, children's entertainer Farmer Jason, and country favorite, the Weston Burt Band.

Back by popular demand this year are the high-flying entertainers, The Skyriders!, headed by three-time National Trampoline Champion and Guinness World Record holder Ken Kovach. Often referred to as "the best trampoline show in the industry," they will amaze you with aerial stunts and maneuvers at over 26 feet in the air! Their world class competitive trampoline routines and show stopping maneuvers feature snow skis, snowboards, wakeboards, ball tossing, and even Ken's Guinness World Record Hula Hoop routine.

The 7th Annual Juried Art Show will be held in conjunction with Auburn CityFest. Artwork will be on display at the Historic Nunn-Winston House located on the park grounds. A preview reception honoring the artists will be held Friday, April 29 from 6 – 8 p.m. at the Historic Nunn-Winston House on the grounds at Kiesel Park. This event is free and open to the public.

Interested in becoming a part of the excitement? Arts & crafts, fine arts, and volunteer applications are available online at www.auburncityfest.com.

Bring your family and friends and join us for Auburn CityFest 2011, presented by the Opelika-Auburn News, on Saturday, April 30 from 9 a.m. - 4 p.m. CityFest is a rain or shine event. For more information, visit www.auburncityfest.com, or contact the Auburn CityFest Headquarters at 501-2930.

30th Annual Easter Egg Hunt Sponsored by Wells Fargo

Help Auburn Parks and Recreation celebrate the Big 3-0 for the Easter Egg Hunt on Saturday, April 23 at 11 a.m. at Kiesel Park! Children ages 12 and under are invited to join us for the 30th Annual Easter Egg Hunt, sponsored by Wells Fargo. This FREE community event is one of the largest egg hunts in Lee County and features more than 30,000 eggs hidden over a four acre area. Enjoy live musical entertainment, free soft drinks and balloons - courtesy of Wells Fargo - and a chance to have your picture taken with the Easter Bunny! The Greater Kiwanis Club of Auburn will be selling hot dogs and hamburgers so be sure to bring a blanket and enjoy a picnic after the hunt. Proceeds from the sales will benefit needy families throughout the community.

In the event of rain, the hunt will be held on Sunday, April 24 at 2 p.m. For more information, visit www.auburnalabama.org/parks or contact Auburn Parks and Recreation at 501-2930.

Egg Hunt Notes

- Egg hunts are divided by age groups and are held simultaneously.
- Please allow time for traffic, parking, and getting your child to the appropriate field on time.
- All egg hunts will begin promptly at 11:15 a.m.



Too Much Phosphorus Can Impact Local Water Quality

Spring is the time of year when many residents will begin their annual lawn fertilization program. It is recommended that residents have a soil test performed prior to any fertilizer application. The soil test will verify whether a fertilizer application is warranted. The soil test may reduce fertilizer cost and can also assist with protecting water quality in local watersheds. Fertilizers are generally comprised of nitrogen, phosphorus and potash. For more information concerning soil tests, please contact the Soil Testing Laboratory at Auburn University at www.aces.edu/anr/soillab or call 844-3958. The average cost of a soil test is \$7.00 per sample and usually takes approximately 3 to 5 days to get results.

Over-fertilization of lawns leads to the runoff of nitrogen and phosphorus into local watersheds. Water quality impacts associated with this nutrient-rich runoff include the creation of algae blooms which can lower dissolved oxygen levels, threaten aquatic habitats, lead to fish kills, decrease water clarity, increase water treatment costs and impair recreational uses such as boating, fishing and other water sports.

If a fertilizer treatment is necessary for your lawn, please do the following in an effort to protect our local watersheds:

- Select a fertilizer based on the recommendations of your soil test.
- When applying fertilizer, please select a slow-release fertilizer, use the recommended application rate and follow the instructions for application.
- If you live along a stream or lake, try to maintain a natural buffer zone between your lawn or garden and the stream or lake. This buffer zone will protect water quality by allowing excess fertilizers and chemicals to be absorbed into the soil in lieu of entering the stream or lake.

Additional lawn maintenance information can be found in the free Alabama Cooperative Extension System publication, *Alabama Smart Yards*, which is available at www.smartyards.org. For future information regarding water quality, please contact the Water Resource Management Department at 334-501-3060.



2011 Household Hazardous Waste Collection Day

Environmental Services will host its 9th Annual Household Hazardous Waste Collection Day on Saturday, April 9, 2011 from 9 a.m. - 2 p.m. at the Environmental Services Complex, located at 365-A North Donahue Drive. Last year's event was a success with the participation of 288 Auburn citizens who responsibly disposed of or recycled varied hazardous chemicals, materials, computers and related equipment.

Citizens may bring up to 20 pounds of materials per household for disposal. Proof of residency can be shown by bringing a recent water bill. Participation is limited to Auburn residents. No farm, commercial, or industrial waste is permitted.

Acceptable Items

Adhesives, glues, resins
 Aerosol cans
 Ammonia
 Antifreeze
 Bleach
 Brake fluids
 Car batteries
 Dry cell batteries
 Hearing aid batteries
 NiCad batteries
 Cesspool cleaners
 Creosote
 Drain cleaners
 Engine de-greasers
 Engine & radiator flushes
 Transmission fluid
 Radiator cleaners
 Floor cleaners
 Gasoline
 Herbicides
 Insect sprays
 Kerosene
 Latex paints
 Metal Polishes
 Mothballs
 Muriatic acid (HCl)
 Oil based paints
 Old chemistry sets
 Oven cleaners

Paint thinners
 Pesticides
 Photo chemicals
 Pool chemicals
 Rodent killers
 Rust preventatives
 Sealants
 Solvents
 Spot removers
 Used engine oil
 Varnishes
 Weed killers
 Wood preservatives
 Wood stains
 Wood strippers

Unacceptable Items

Ammunition
 Explosives
 Fire extinguishers
 Flares
 Gunpowder
 Radioactive waste
 Smoke detectors
 DEA Regulated Substances
 Unknown gas cylinders
 Unknown materials
 Unstable wastes

Please contact Environmental Services at 501-3080 or email us at webenvirsvc@auburnalabama.org if you have further questions.

City of Auburn Launches 'Travel With Care' Transportation Safety Campaign

The City of Auburn and Auburn University have partnered once again to present a safety and alternative transportation campaign titled "Travel With Care" the week of April 4-8. The campaign is targeted at all modes of transportation, and will focus on increasing pedestrian safety awareness; including important information on the use of crosswalks, pedestrian crossing signals, and reflective materials for nighttime visibility. Mayor Bill Ham, Jr., Auburn University President Jay Gogue will join the community to kick off the campaign at Toomer's Corner on Monday, April 4 at 2:00 p.m. During the week of the campaign, Auburn Police will emphasize traffic and safety regulations including visibility, jaywalking and red light running. Volunteers will be distributing educational materials and reflective giveaways throughout the week. For transportation safety tips, go to the Web site www.travelwithcareauburn.com.



2011 Citizens Public Safety Academy



The television dramas make it look thrilling, but for the men and women who work in Auburn's Public Safety Department, public safety is a major responsibility that's part of everyday life. This Spring, citizens are invited to experience firsthand the inner workings of police, fire, emergency communications and codes enforcement as part of the 2011 Citizens Public Safety Academy.

The academy is a free program offered to area citizens, ages 18 and older, involving "hands-on" activities such as firearms training and CPR certification. Each week a variety of public safety professionals will discuss various topics in the academy. Topics will include, but are not limited to crime scenes, polygraph use, hostage negotiation, fire prevention, and codes enforcement.

The first session of the *Auburn Public Safety Academy* begins on Thursday, March 31, 2011 with graduation being held on May 12, 2011. Six of the sessions meet on Thursday evenings from 6:30 p.m. to 9:00 p.m. and two sessions are held on Saturdays, 8:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.

If you are interested in attending an Auburn Public Safety Academy or know someone who is, contact Captain Tommy Carswell by calling 501-3122 or emailing tcarswell@auburnalabama.org. If done by email, title the subject line "Public Safety Academy." Applications are also available at www.auburnalabama.org or at the Public Safety building at 161 North Ross Street during normal business hours.



MEETING SCHEDULE

APRIL

- 1 Tree Commission**, 11:30 a.m., Chamber of Commerce Conference Room, 714 East Glenn Avenue
- 4 Cemeteries Advisory Board**, 4:00 p.m., Dean Road Recreation Center, 307 South Dean Road
- 5 Parks & Recreation Advisory Board**, 5:15 p.m., Dean Road Recreation Center, 307 South Dean Road
- City Council**, 7 p.m., Council Chamber, 141 North Ross Street
- 6 Board of Zoning Adjustment**, 4:30 p.m., Council Chamber, 141 North Ross Street
- 12 Greenspace Advisory Board**, 11:30 a.m., City Meeting Room, 122 Tichenor Avenue
- Historic Preservation Commission**, 4 p.m., Development Services Building, 171 North Ross Street
- Board of Education**, 6 p.m., AHS Multi-Media Room, 405 South Dean Road
- 14 Planning Commission**, 5 p.m., Council Chamber, 141 North Ross Street
- 19 City Council**, 7 p.m., Council Chamber, 141 North Ross Street
- 21 Water Works Board**, 4 p.m., Water Board Conference Room, 1501 West Samford Avenue
- 26 Bicycle Committee**, 7 p.m., Development Services Building, 171 North Ross Street

Meeting times and places are subject to change.

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

City Code for Dog Owners

According to City Code section 4-27, the owner or caretaker of any dog must immediately remove and properly dispose of waste produced by a dog on the grounds of any property except for private property owned or controlled by the dog owner or caretaker. Obey the law, and help keep Auburn beautiful for everyone.

Planning Commission To Consider CompPlan 2030 Approval

In accordance with Title 11-52-10 of the Alabama Code, as amended, notice is hereby given that the Planning Commission of the City of Auburn will hold a public hearing on Thursday, April 14, 2011 at 5:00 p.m., in the Council Chambers of the Auburn Public Safety Department, 141 North Ross Street, to consider adoption of CompPlan 2030, the comprehensive plan for the City of Auburn. Additional information is available at www.auburnalabama.org/complan2030, or by calling 334-501-3045.

Board Vacancies

- Two vacancies on the **Library Board** will be filled at the April 5, 2011 City Council meeting.
- Three vacancies on the **Historic Preservation Commission** will be filled at the April 5, 2011 City Council meeting.
- One vacancy on the **Board of Education** will be announced at the April 5 meeting and will be filled at the May 3, 2011 City Council meeting.
- One vacancy on the Indian Pines Recreation Authority will be announced at the May 3 meeting and will be filled at the June 7, 2011 City Council meeting.



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

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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@auburnalabama.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.

Auburn Public Library



Tuesdays in April...Baby Time – Mothers of babies ages 6-18 months are invited on Tuesdays at 10:00 a.m. for Baby Time. The program features music, fingerplays, and books. For more information, contact Auburn Public Library Youth Services at 501-3196.

Preschool Story Time...Every Thursday – Preschoolers ages 3-5 years-old are invited every Thursday in April at 10:00 a.m. for Story Time. For more information, contact Auburn Public Library Youth Services at 501-3196.



Every Week in April...Toddler Time – Toddlers ages 18 months – 3 years-old are invited every Wednesday at 10:00 a.m. for Toddler Time. The program features music, visual aids and simple crafts. For more information, contact Auburn Public Library Youth Services at 501-3196.



Home School Lego Club - Open to children ages 5-13 years old the 2nd and 4th Thursday at 2:00 p.m. for Home School Lego Club. Bring your Legos. A limited number of Legos are provided by the library. For more information, contact Auburn Public Library Youth Services at 501-3196.

April 6...Magic Tree House Club - Children in grades Kindergarten – 5th Grade are invited on Wednesday, April 6 at 3:30 to participate in the Magic Tree House. The program features reading and a craft. For more information, contact Auburn Public Library Youth Services at 501-3196.



April 7...Teen Café– Teens in grades 8-12 are invited to Teen Café' on Thursday, April 7 from 6:30-8:30 p.m. For more information, contact Auburn Public Library Youth Services at 501-3196.

April 10-16...National Library Week - It's a week dedicated to celebrating our local libraries! The Auburn Public Library invites you to "Create Your Own Story @ Your Library". Contact the library at 501-3190 for information about special National Library Week activities.



April 12...Puppet Show – Children, ages 3-11, are invited to a puppet show on Tuesday, April 12 at 3:30 p.m. For more information, contact Auburn Public Library Youth Services at 501-3196.

April 28...American Girl's Club – Children in grades Kindergarten – 5th Grade are invited on Thursday, April 28 at 3:30 to learn about girls who grew up in various times in history. For more information, contact Auburn Public Library Youth Services at 501-3196.

Parks and Recreation

Now Showing...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.



Spring Invitational, April 4 – May 6. Works in a variety of media by area and regional artists.

Student Art Exhibition, April 4 - 14. Works from students in Auburn City Schools, grades 1 - 12. A closing reception will be held on Thursday, April 14 at 5:30 p.m. at the Arts Center.

April 1...First Friday Night Tennis Mixer - Join the Auburn Community Tennis Association (ACTA) for the First Friday Night Tennis Mixer on April 1 at 6:30 p.m. at the City of Auburn/Auburn University Yarbrough Tennis Center. Citizens ages 19 and up are encouraged to play. All levels of play are welcome. No partner is necessary. The event will be held rain or shine. Yarbrough Tennis Center non-member court fees apply. For more information, visit auburnalabama.org/tennis or contact the Yarbrough Tennis Center at 501-2920.



April 9...Tiger Trekkers Hiking Club - Teens ages 16 and up are invited to grab their hiking books and join Auburn Parks and Recreation for the Tiger Trekker Hiking Club trip on April 9 from 9 a.m. - 2 p.m. Join us for fresh air, great exercise, and an opportunity to enjoy the great outdoors at the Cherokee Ridge Alpine Trail. The cost of the trip is \$5, payable in cash on the day of the trip. Participants will meet at the Dean Road Recreation Center. For more information, contact Melissa Weldon at 501-2946.

April 10-16...National Earth Week – Parks and Recreation will be hosting Earth Week activities for Auburn City School students at Town Creek Park on April 13th & 14th. In addition, the Auburn Public Library will host a Earth Week themed puppet show on April 12th. See Library Upcoming Events for more information.

April 16...5th Annual Art Walk/Run - Join the Junior League of Lee County on April 16 for the 5th Annual Art Walk/Run, benefitting various community organizations focusing on arts and literacy for children in Lee County. A portion of the proceeds from the event benefit Auburn Parks and Recreation's Adventures in Art and Auburn Studio Project, community-based, art education programs for students in Auburn City Schools. For more information, or to download a registration form, visit juniorleagueofleecounty.com.



April 17...Auburn Community Orchestra Concert: VERDI: Requiem - Join the Auburn Community Orchestra on April 17 at 4 p.m. at First Baptist Church Opelika for a FREE concert featuring the Auburn University Chamber Choir, Opelika Civic Chorale, and Tuskegee University Concert Choir. For more information, visit auburnalabama.org/arts or contact the Jan Dempsey Community Arts Center at 501-2963.

Now Available...SummerNight 2011 Applications – Join the City of Auburn, Auburn Arts Association, and Downtown Auburn Merchants for SummerNight 2011 on June 17 from 6 – 9:30 p.m. in downtown Auburn. This FREE community event features artwork and music from area artists on display throughout downtown. Area artists, downtown businesses, and restaurants are encouraged to participate. Applications are available online at auburnalabama.org/arts. For more information, contact the Arts Center at 501-2963.