

Open Line

A Monthly Newsletter for City of Auburn Citizens

September 2012

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City of Auburn



Citizens Provide Input for Renew Opelika Road

The community visioning process for the Opelika Road corridor redevelopment plan is underway. Approximately 80 residents attended the first public meeting for *Renew Opelika Road* on Wednesday, June 27 at the Jan Dempsey Community Arts Center. Attendees engaged in discussion, group exercises and keypad polling as they offered their thoughts for the future of the Opelika Road Corridor.

Full polling results are available online at www.auburnalabama.org/renew. Highlights from the poll include:

- Citizens identified retail vacancies and vacant properties as the top land use priority to be addressed.
- A majority of respondents are willing to consider a new road layout for the corridor, choosing four travel lanes with a planted median and sidewalks as their favorite possibility.
- Participants felt that the most important consideration was to improve the visual appeal of the Opelika Road corridor.

Your input is a key factor in formulating this plan for the future. If you were unable to attend the first public meeting, two online public input options are available at www.auburnalabama.org/renew:

- A short-form interactive poll with mapping options.
- A longer-form poll which includes the questions from the June public meeting.

Additional public meetings are planned for the weeks of August 27-31 and October 15-19. The outcome of the *Renew Opelika Road* visioning process will be a plan to guide the future development of Opelika Road and help ensure the area's commercial viability. The plan will help answer questions of how the community and City can support Auburn's existing businesses and attract new businesses to the area. It will also reflect the most effective way to improve traffic flow, pedestrian accessibility and the overall look and feel that citizens envision for the Opelika Road corridor.

We want to hear what you think. Visit www.auburnalabama.org/renew to take the surveys or to see specific public meeting times and locations. For more information on *Renew Opelika Road*, contact Justin Steinmann with the City of Auburn Planning Department at 501-3045 or jsteinmann@auburnalabama.org.



Preserving Your Streets and Roads

Have you ever wondered about those black, squiggly lines found on some stretches of road? Many assume they're a sign of a deteriorating road.

But those squiggly lines don't indicate a road in need of repair. Instead, they show where a road has been renewed. Crack seal is rubberized asphalt used to repair and maintain roads in communities throughout the nation. Crack sealing is an effective and economical way to extend the life of roads. It's also relatively cheap compared to repaving, and doesn't require extensive road closures and prolonged traffic delays. Crack seal can be quickly applied, and is ready for traffic within just a few hours.

In Auburn, crack sealing is an important piece of an ongoing road maintenance strategy. Every two years, the City's Public Works Department evaluates all 275 miles of roadways in Auburn. The rating each stretch of road receives, along with the average traffic load, funding availability, and other factors is used to prioritize projects for the City's five-year resurfacing plan. A newly paved road is expected to last 20-25 years.



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Preserving Your Streets and Roads

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Over a road's lifetime, traffic, temperature and water are destructive forces. Pavement naturally expands and contracts with temperature changes, allowing water easy access to deteriorate the road's foundation. Crack-seal is flexible enough to move with the pavement, preventing water intrusion and extending the life of the road by as much as 20%. And despite its appearance, crack seal offers excellent ride-ability to vehicles.

So if you see those black squiggly lines on a road near you, there's no need for concern. Crack-seal is part of the road's driving surface and is helping save taxpayer dollars by keeping our roads in good condition for as long as possible.

For more information about crack-sealing and current road maintenance projects, please call the City of Auburn Public Works Department at 501-3000, or visit us on the web at www.auburnalabama.org/pw.



Auburn Beautification Council Plant Sale

The Auburn Beautification Council will sell pansies and mums at its Annual Plant Sale on Saturday, Sept. 29 from 8:00 a.m. - noon at the Dean Road Recreation Center located at 307 South Dean Road. Don't miss your chance to purchase flowers for fall planting! Prices range from \$6-\$15. All proceeds from the sale support Auburn Beautification Council projects including the downtown hanging baskets and plantings; the Spring Azalea Trail; the gardens at Kiesel Park; and beautification awards presented to Auburn homes and businesses. Pre-order plants by Wednesday, September 19 to receive a 10% discount.

For more information, visit www.auburnalabama.org/parks or contact Auburn Parks and Recreation at 501-2930.

City of Auburn's Water Supply Increases

The Water Works Board of the City of Auburn is pleased to announce the completion of a new high capacity water supply well and associated water main. On June 21, 2012, a ribbon cutting ceremony was held to commemorate the completion of this \$1.8 million dollar project that included the construction of a new 1,200 gallon per minute water supply well and approximately 8,000 linear feet of 16-inch water transmission main. This new well increased the City of Auburn's water production capacity by 16 percent and will provide the Auburn community with up to 1.3 million gallons of water per day.



Recent Recognitions

The City of Auburn was recently recognized by several national media outlets for the local job market, economy, local education and quality of life. These recognitions follow a number of national recognitions over the past few years, including ranking in U.S. News & World Report's "Top 10 Best Places to Live in the U.S." in 2009. Recent recognitions include:

Newsweek

Auburn High School was ranked #735 out of the Top 1000 in Newsweek's Best High Schools 2012

newgeography

Auburn/Opelika ranked #64 on New Geography's list of the 2012 Best Cities for Job Growth

Forbes

Forbes ranked Auburn the #17 Best Small Place for Business and Careers

Board Vacancies

- One vacancy on the **Lee County Youth Development Center** will be filled at the September 18, 2012 City Council meeting.
- Two vacancies on the **Industrial Development Board** will be announced at the September 4, 2012 meeting and will be filled at the October 2, 2012 City Council meeting.
- Three vacancies on the **Tree Commission** will be announced at the September 18, 2012 meeting and will be filled at the October 16, 2012 City Council meeting.
- Two vacancies on the **Parks and Recreation Advisory Board** will be announced at the October 16, 2012 meeting and will be filled at the November 20, 2012 City Council meeting.



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

Adventures in Art 2012

The *Adventures in Art* program will be held September 10-14 at the Auburn High School Performing Arts Center and the Auburn University Donald E. Davis Arboretum. *Adventures in Art* is a field trip component of a community-based, art education program for all fourth and fifth grade students at Auburn City Schools. The program, in its thirteenth year, is sponsored by the City of Auburn Parks and Recreation Department, Jan Dempsey Community Arts Center, The Alabama State Council on the Arts, and the Junior League of Lee County.

The art of performance through puppetry is the focus of the 2012 program. Students will begin by viewing a theatrical performance by the Center for Puppetry Arts (CPA) at the Auburn High School Performing Arts Center. Afterwards, students will split into groups to attend three workshops that will focus on a visual arts project; an educational tour exploring nature and conservation at the Auburn University Arboretum; and a performance workshop on puppet manipulation with CPA. Each component will educate and provide creative experiences through puppetry, exploration, and hands-on activities.

For more information, please contact Cari Philen, Art Education Specialist, at 501-2944 or email webparksrec@auburnalabama.org.



Woofstock 2012

Auburn Parks and Recreation and the Lee County Humane Society (LCHS) invite you to join them for Woofstock 2012 on Saturday, Sept. 29 from 9:00 a.m. – 2:00 p.m. at Kiesel Park. Woofstock is an annual day in the park for Lee County residents and their pets. Don't miss live entertainment, a children's fun area, and activities for you and your four-legged friend. Admission is FREE. There is a small fee for some activities in the park. All proceeds benefit adoption programs for the animals at the LCHS. All dogs are welcome, but must remain on a leash at all times. For more information, visit www.leecountyhumane.org.



Sundown Concert Series at Kiesel Park

Join Auburn Parks and Recreation for FREE fall entertainment every Thursday in September and October! The Sundown Concert Series at Kiesel Park kicks off Thursday, Sept. 6 at 6:00 p.m. Enjoy performances by acts such as Crossroads and Dave Potts each week. Bring the family, a picnic, lawn chairs, or a blanket and join us for an evening of entertainment. Don't forget – dogs are always welcome! Ample parking is available, so large groups are welcome! Shake up your weekly routine and make your next Bunco night or organizational meeting a social event at the Sundown Concert Series!

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 or contact Auburn Parks and Recreation at 501-2930.



Lake Wilmore Trail Run

Celebrate Family Health and Fitness Day USA at the Lake Wilmore Trail Run on Saturday, September 29 beginning at 8:00 a.m. Enjoy a 5K or 1-mile run on the Lake Wilmore Trail which can be accessed from the parking lot of Ogletree Elementary School. The course is a rolling trail, great for both new and experienced trail runners. Registration costs \$15/person. All proceeds benefit trail maintenance and improvements. For more information, visit www.auburnalabama.org/parks or contact Auburn Parks and Recreation at 501-2930.

MEETING SCHEDULE SEPTEMBER

- 4 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
- 5 Board of Zoning Adjustment**, 4:30 p.m., Council Chamber, 141 North Ross Street
- 7 Tree Commission**, 11:30 a.m., Chamber of Commerce Conference Room, 714 East Glenn Avenue
- 10 Cemeteries Advisory Board**, 4:00 p.m., Dean Road Recreation Center, 307 South Dean Road
- 11 Greenspace Advisory Board**, Noon, Dean Road Recreation Center, 307 South Dean Road
- 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
- 13 Planning Commission**, 5 p.m., Council Chamber, 141 North Ross Street
- 18 City Council**, 7 p.m., Council Chamber, 141 North Ross Street
- 20 Water Works Board**, 4 p.m., Water Board Conference Room, 1501 West Samford Avenue
- 25 Library Board**, 2 p.m., Library Board Room, 749 East Thach Avenue
- 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.

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Public Works Department
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Karen DeLano, Superintendent
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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

For more information, contact Auburn Public Library's Youth Services at 501-3196.

Baby Lapsit - Tuesdays at 9:30 a.m. for ages birth – 12 months and their caregivers.

Baby First Steps Storytime - Tuesdays at 10:30 a.m. for ages 12 - 24 months and their caregivers.

Toddler Time - Wednesdays at 10:00 a.m. for ages 18 months - 3 years and their caregivers.

Preschool Time - Thursdays at 10:00 a.m. for preschoolers ages 3 - 5 years and their caregivers.

Diary of Library Kid - Wednesday, September 5th at 3:30 p.m. for students in grades K-5.

Puppet Show - Tuesday, September 11 at 3:30 p.m. for children ages 3-10.

American Girl's Club - Thursday, September 20 at 3:30 p.m. for students in grades K-5.

Lego® Play - Every Saturday in September from 9:00 a.m.-4:30 p.m. for students in grades 4-12. Join us every Saturday of the month for "free play" with Legos®.



Parks and Recreation

For more information, contact Auburn Parks and Recreation at 501-2930.

Now Showing...Jan Dempsey Community Arts Center Exhibition – Mark your calendar for the following Jan Dempsey Community Arts Center Exhibition. The exhibit is free and open to the public Monday - Friday from 8 a.m. - 5 p.m. For more information, visit www.auburnalabama.org/arts or contact the Arts Center at 501-2963.

The September Show, Sept. 4 - 30. A variety of works by regional artists and craftpersons.

Aug. 20 – Sept. 2...Samford Pool Open on Weekends – Samford Pool will be open weekends only, effective Aug. 20 – Sept. 2. Join us Saturdays from 10 a.m. – 6 p.m. and Sundays from 1 – 5 p.m. for recreation swim.

Register by Aug. 31...ABC–123 – Toddlers ages 3 - 5 are invited to join Auburn Parks and Recreation's ABC–123 program for the fall quarter. Class meets every Monday, Wednesday, and Friday from 8 - 11 a.m. at the Frank Brown Recreation Center, beginning Sept. 10. The cost is \$225/quarter. This class reinforces preschool readiness and promotes socialization skills through arts & crafts, storytelling, and creative learning. Field trips may be offered. Children must be potty trained to participate. Sign up at the Dean Road Recreation Center Monday - Friday, 8 a.m. - 5 p.m., Aug. 6 - 31. For more information, contact Auburn Parks and Recreation at 501-2930.

Sept. 3...Samford Pool End of Season All Day Swim – Samford Pool will close for the season at the end of the day on Monday, Sept. 3. Join us for all day swimming from 10 a.m. – 6 p.m. as we say our final farewell until next season!

Sept. 4...Auburn CityFest 2013 Applications Available – Save the date! Auburn CityFest 2013 is set for Saturday, April 27 from 9 a.m. – 4 p.m. at Kiesel Park. Applications for fine arts, arts & crafts, food, and non-profit exhibitors will be available online at www.auburncityfest.com beginning Tuesday, Sept. 4. Log on today to get your application in early. Spaces fill quickly! Interested in becoming a sponsor? Contact the Auburn CityFest Headquarters at 501-2930 for more information. Mark your calendars...we'll see you at Auburn CityFest 2013 on Saturday, April 27!

Register by Sept. 7...Auburn CityKids - Registration for Auburn CityKids, a free, community-based visual arts program for children ages 7 – 13, will begin Aug. 6 at the Jan Dempsey Community Arts Center (JDCAC). The Auburn CityKids program provides children with the opportunity to learn in an intellectually stimulating and creative environment while developing meaningful relationships with peers and mentors. The program, directed by Auburn University professor Chichi Lovett, is sponsored by Auburn Parks and Recreation, the Auburn Arts Association, and the Art Department at Auburn University. Class will be held every Thursday from 4:30 - 5:30 p.m. at the JDCAC, beginning Thursday, Sept. 27 and ending Thursday, Nov. 15. Participants should be registered by Friday, Sept. 7. Students from Professor Lovett's ARTS 4010 will teach classes and be assisted by Professor Emily Myers SP2012 students by providing art activities with participating children. For more information on the program, or to register, please contact the JDCAC at 501-2963.



Sept. 16...Outside Movie Night at Boykin Community Center - Enjoy a FREE movie night, sponsored by Officials R Us, on Sunday, Sept. 16 at 7 p.m. at Boykin Community Center. Citizens of all ages are invited to join us for a screening of "The Blind Side." Bring a lawn chair, blanket, and picnic (no alcohol or glass containers), and join us for a FREE, feel good movie this fall! For more information, contact Auburn Parks and Recreation at 501-2930.

Mondays, Wednesdays, and Fridays in September...Auburn Stride Walkers – Get moving with the Auburn Stride Walkers Club! Citizens of all ages are invited to join the club for walks at various City walking trails every Monday, Wednesday, and Friday at 9 a.m. The first walk of each month is held at Kiesel Park. Monthly walk schedules are available online at www.auburnalabama.org/parks. Click on the Brochure/Programs button. Participation is free. For more information, contact Melissa Weldon at 501-2946 or Dee Watson at 501-2948.

Now Available...Parks and Recreation Fall Brochure – Be sure to pick up your FREE copy of the Parks and Recreation Fall Brochure, available now at City facilities and online at www.auburnalabama.org/parks. The brochure is your guide to fall sports and special events, including Downtown Trick-or-Treat and the Fall Concert Series at Kiesel Park. For more information, visit www.auburnalabama.org/parks or contact Auburn Parks and Recreation at 501-2930.

