

Open Line

A Monthly Newsletter for City of Auburn Citizens

August 2015

City Council

Bill Ham, Jr., Mayor
(334) 559-8804
bham@auburnalabama.org

Clemon Byrd, Ward 1
(334) 332-8283
clemonbyrd2014@yahoo.com

Ron Anders Jr., Ward 2
(334) 703-9000
ronanders2020@gmail.com

Beth Witten, Ward 3
(334) 740-8575
blueturtlebeth@gmail.com

Brent Beard, Ward 4
(334) 821-4302
brent@alabamacontractsales.com

Lynda Tremaine, Ward 5
(334) 329-8878
ltremaine@charter.net

Dick Phelan, Ward 6
(334) 887-2071
dickphelan@yahoo.com

Gene Dulaney, Ward 7
(334) 887-7908
(334) 466-3191
gdulaney@auburnbank.com

Tommy Dawson, Ward 8
(334) 703-9528
tdawson65@outlook.com

Open Line

A Monthly Newsletter for City of Auburn Citizens

Open Line is produced by
Office of the
City Manager
144 Tichenor Ave., Ste. 1
Auburn, AL 36830
phone: 334-501-7260
fax: 334-501-7299

web:
www.auburnalabama.org

email:
openline@auburnalabama.org



City of Auburn



Register Now for the 2015 Citizens Planning Academy

Beginning September 17th, the City of Auburn Planning Department will begin the fifth session of the Citizens Planning Academy (CPA). The CPA is a six week course designed to give Auburn residents an overview of the planning and development process in Auburn. Meetings will be held on Thursday evenings from 5:30 to 7:00 p.m.

Participants will learn the basics of planning and how different departments, developers and individuals interact in the planning process. The course will also cover major plans such as CompPlan 2030 and Renew Opelika Road.

Learn how the process works, how zoning affects where you live and work, and how you can become more informed and involved so that you can help shape Auburn's future. The CPA is free and is open to Auburn residents. Apply early due to limited seating. For more information, or to register for the program, contact Tyler Caldwell in Auburn Planning at 501-3036 or tcaldwell@auburnalabama.org.

Auburn's Sign Regulations

The City of Auburn's Zoning Ordinance regulates all signage within the Auburn City limits to help ensure the safe and attractive placement of signs throughout the City. Residents and businesses can help keep Auburn beautiful by knowing and following these rules:

- Signs and posters are prohibited from being posted on utility poles or traffic signs anywhere in the City of Auburn.
- Signs are prohibited from being posted in the public right-of-way throughout the City of Auburn. Signs may not be placed outside the boundaries of a business or individual's property line.
- All real estate signs must be located only on the property that is for sale, lease, or rent. Off-premise real estate signs, such as directional signs to the property, are prohibited. One real estate sign is permitted to face each street adjacent to the property that is for sale, lease, or rent. These regulations also pertain to For Sale by Owner signs.

For more information, please contact the City of Auburn Planning Department at 501-3040.

Auburn Veterans Scholarship Foundation

The Auburn Veterans Scholarship foundation is dedicated to providing scholarship assistance to veterans. Each year at the Mayor's Memorial Day Breakfast, \$2,000 scholarships are presented to two veterans, or their dependents, to help attend a local college or university. You can help sponsor these educational opportunities for Veterans and their families by contributing to the Foundation. Individuals or businesses may contribute through a one time or monthly automatic bank draft or via check payable to the Auburn Veterans Scholarship Foundation. Automatic bank draft forms and pledge cards can be found and printed at www.auburnalabama.org/veterans. Pledges and payments may be mailed to:

Auburn Veterans Scholarship Foundation
144 Tichenor Avenue, Suite 2
Auburn, AL 36830

The City of Auburn and the Auburn Veterans Committee established the Auburn Veterans Scholarship Foundation in 2008. The Foundation was created in an effort to demonstrate the Auburn community's appreciation for the sacrifices made by our service men and women and their families. The goal of the Foundation is to fund a \$100,000 endowment as a long term source of scholarship assistance for local veterans. For more information, please contact Auburn City Hall at 501-7270.



Sales Tax Holiday

The annual "Back to School" Sales Tax Holiday Weekend offers savings for parents sending their children back to school this fall. The tax holiday weekend begins Friday, August 7 at 12:01 a.m. and ends on Sunday, August 9 at midnight.

Items exempt from state, county, and city sales tax fall into 3 major categories:

Clothing – All apparel suitable for a person's general use, unless it otherwise appears on the taxable list. Clothing items must cost \$100 or less per article of clothing to be tax exempt.

Computers, Computer Software, and School Computer Supplies – A single purchase with a sales price of \$750 or less will be tax exempt. Tax exempt items include computers, computer software and items commonly used by a student in a course of study in which a computer is used.

School supplies – Any items of \$50 or less per item commonly used by a student in a course of study will be tax exempt. Supplies may include art supplies, reference maps and globes, textbooks on an official school book list and with a sales price of more than \$30 but less than \$50, and books with a sales price of \$30 or less per book.

Items not exempt during the Sales Tax Holiday Weekend include:

- Clothing accessories such as handbags, jewelry, sunglasses, umbrellas.
- Protective equipment such as breathing masks, hard hats, helmets, and safety belts.
- Sports or recreational equipment such as athletic gloves, goggles, shin guards, ballet or tap shoes.
- Furniture, any systems, devices, software, or peripherals designed or intended primarily for recreational use, video games.
- Magazines, newspapers, periodicals, or any other document printed or offered for sale in a non-bound form.

For more information on the 2015 "Back to School" Sales Tax Holiday, visit the Alabama Department of Revenue at www.revenue.alabama.gov/salestax/SalesTaxHol.cfm

How Many Roommates May I Have?

As thousands of students return to the plains, it's a good time for a reminder of residential occupancy limits in Auburn. Traditional residential neighborhoods are typically zoned to allow for no more than two unrelated persons residing at an address. However, apartment complexes, mobile home parks and other multi-family housing units are properly zoned to allow for more than two unrelated tenants.

If you're not certain if you or your neighbor are in compliance with the Zoning Ordinance, visit the City's website at www.auburnalabama.org/students. Residential occupancy brochures are also available at the City of Auburn Planning Department, located at 171 North Ross Street, Suite 100. For more information, please contact the City of Auburn Planning Department at 501-3040.

Football Season Rentals

Thinking of renting or leasing your home for AU football game weekends? Here are some things that you should know:

- Renting or leasing your single family home for less than six continuous months may constitute a use violation or an unrelated occupancy violation of the City of Auburn's Zoning Ordinance. If you are considering renting or leasing your single-family residence, please contact the City's Planning Department to find out what is allowed based on how your property is zoned.
- Renting or leasing your home for less than six continuous months requires the collection and remittance of the State, County, and City lodging taxes, per section 40-26-1 of the Code of Alabama, 1976 and Section 12-176 of the City of Auburn Code of Ordinances.
- Renting or leasing your primary home could negatively affect your homestead exemption status with Lee County.
- Renting or leasing multifamily dwellings such as condos and apartment complexes for less than six continuous months requires appropriate zoning as well as collection and remittance of State, County and City lodging taxes.

For more information on lodging taxes, please contact the City's Revenue Office at 334-501-7239.

For more information on zoning, please contact the City's Planning Department at 334-501-3040.

Downtown Auburn

Be sure and visit downtown Auburn in August to visit your favorite shops and restaurants and see the all new Toomer's Corner Intersection! The Corner Construction Project will be completed in August and free downtown parking will end with the beginning of the Auburn University Fall semester on August 17.

Jan Dempsey Community Arts Center Summer Invitational

Mark your calendar for the Summer Invitational on display at the Jan Dempsey Community Arts Center from July 15 - August 21. This is an invitational exhibition of new and recent works by selected regional artists. The exhibit is FREE and open to the public weekdays from 8 a.m. - 5 p.m.

Board Vacancies

One vacancy on the **Metropolitan Planning Organization Citizens Advisory Committee** was announced on July 7, 2015 and will be filled at the August 4, 2015 City Council meeting.

One vacancy on the **Lee County Youth Development Center** will be announced on August 18, 2015 and will be filled at the September 15, 2015 City Council meeting.

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

VACANCY



Auburn Area Community Theater (AACT) to present "The new Mel Brooks Young Frankenstein" this month!

It's alive! Get ready to laugh and enjoy the musical presentation of Mel Brooks' 1974 film "The new Mel Brooks Young Frankenstein." This musical version of the comedy classic was adapted by Mel Brooks' himself and delivers in the same terrifying hilarity as the original film. Performances of "The new Mel Brooks Young Frankenstein" will take place on August 21-23 and August 27-30. Please refer to www.auburnact.org for show times and ticket information.

MEETING SCHEDULE AUGUST

- 3 Cemeteries Advisory Board**, 4 p.m., Harris Center, 425 Perry Street
- 4 Parks & Recreation Advisory Board**, 5:15 p.m., Harris Center, 425 Perry Street
- Committee of the Whole**, 6:55 p.m., Council Chamber, 141 North Ross Street
- 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
- 6 Water Board Special Meeting**, 4:00 p.m., Water Board Conference Room, 1501 West Samford Avenue
- 7 Tree Commission**, 11:00 a.m., Harris Center, 425 Perry Street
- 11 Greenspace Advisory Board**, Noon, Harris Center, 425 Perry Street
- Historic Preservation Commission**, 4 p.m., DSB Conference Room, 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 Library Board**, 2:00 p.m., Library Conference Room, 749 East Thach Avenue
- Committee of the Whole**, 6:55 p.m., Council Chamber, 141 North Ross Street
- 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 Conference Room, 1501 West Samford Avenue

Meeting times and places are subject to change.

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

Ward 5 Public Meeting

Ward 5 Councilperson Lynda Tremaine will hold her monthly public meeting for Ward 5 residents on Monday, August 3 at 5:30 p.m. at St. Dunstan's Episcopal Church in downtown Auburn.

All Auburn residents are welcome, but the meeting will focus on issues of interest to Ward 5 residents. To find out what voting ward you live in and who represents you on the Auburn City Council, go to <http://www.auburnalabama.org/maps/Voting-Ward>.

Kreher Preserve

Kreher Preserve Fall Forest Friends Registration and Playdate is August 3rd! Join the staff at the Kreher Preserve and Nature Center for a fun-filled day in the woods on Monday, August 3! This award-winning program provides a unique educational experience for pre-school aged children and their parents by incorporating hands-on activities with nature and environmental awareness. The six-week session begins Tuesday, September 15 and Friday, September 18 from 9:30 – 11:30 a.m. The fee is \$45 per child and Preserve membership at the Magnolia Level or above is required. The playdate and registration for fall will take place on the nature playground beginning at 9:30 a.m. Registration forms can be downloaded at www.auburn.edu/preserve (beginning August 3) or you may request forms via email at preserve@auburn.edu.

Kreher Preserve and Nature Center August Discovery Hike and Nature Walks: Raptors! Join the Kreher Preserve and Nature Center naturalists for the August Discovery Hikes and explore the preserve and learn about raptors! From bald eagles and red-tailed hawks to owls and vultures, we will learn about all of these amazing birds from their calls, feathers and nests. Groups will meet at the pavilion and then head out on a raptor hike.

The Raptor Discovery Hike will be on Tuesday, August 11 from 3:30 – 4:30 p.m. and designed for families with children ages 5 – 12. **The Raptor Nature Walk** will be on Thursday, August 13 from 8:30 – 9:30 a.m. and designed for adults. Both events are free and pre-registration is not required.

The Kreher Preserve and Nature Center is located at 2222 N. College Street, Auburn, just north of the AU Fisheries complex. For more information visit www.auburn.edu/preserve, email to preserve@auburn.edu, or call 334.844.8091.

End of Summer Luau at Samford Pool!

On Friday, August 28 from 6 – 8 p.m. at Samford Pool say farewell to summer, cool off from the heat and get in touch with your inner beach bum with our Hawaiian-themed End of Summer Luau! Do the Limbo and listen to the sounds of the ukulele, steel drums and reggae. Don't forget to wear your grass skirt for the hula dance around the pool or your favorite and most colorful Hawaiian shirt for our Big Kahuna contest! Leis will be given out, along with other fun party favors, and some yummy Hawaiian treats will be served. This event is FREE to Splash Pass holders or \$2 per person. Please contact the Samford Pool at 334.501.2957 or Scott Norrell at snorrell@auburnalabama.org for more information.

City Management

Charles M. Duggan, Jr.
501-7261
City Manager
cduggan@auburnalabama.org

Kevin A. Cowper
501-7262
Assistant City Manager
kcowper@auburnalabama.org

James C. Buston, III
501-7201
Assistant City Manager/CIO
jbuston@auburnalabama.org

Economic Development Dept.
Phillip Dunlap, Director
501-7270
pdunlap@auburnalabama.org

Environmental Services Department
Timothy L. Woody, Director
501-3080
twoody@auburnalabama.org

Finance Department
Penny Smith, Director
501-7221
psmith@auburnalabama.org

Human Resources Department
Steven A. Reeves, Director
501-7240
sreeves@auburnalabama.org

Library
Chris Warren, Director
501-3190
cwarren@auburnalabama.org

Municipal Court
Jim McLaughlin, Judge
501-3180
jmclaughlin@auburnalabama.org

Parks and Recreation Department
Rebecca O. Richardson, Director
501-2930
brichardson@auburnalabama.org

Planning Department
Forrest E. Cotten, Director
501-3040
fcotten@auburnalabama.org

Public Safety Department
William H. James, Director
501-3110
bjames@auburnalabama.org

Public Works Department
Jeffery L. Ramsey, Director
501-3000
jramsey@auburnalabama.org

Water Resource Management Dept.
Eric A. Carson, Director
501-3060
ecarson@auburnalabama.org



Auburn City Schools
Karen DeLano, Superintendent
887-2100
ktdelano@auburnschools.org



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 501-7266.

up COMING EVENTS

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

Parks and Recreation

For more information on any of the events listed, or to register for a program, contact Auburn Parks and Recreation at 501-2930 or visit www.auburnalabama.org/parks.

Fall sports registration begins this month on August 3rd. Mark your calendars with the following dates to ensure that you don't miss out on the fun this fall! For more information about registering online or as a walk-in, please visit www.auburnalabama.org/parks.

Sport	Date	Where	Time
Adult Kickball	Monday, August 3	Softball Complex	Ongoing
Adult Softball	Monday, August 3	Softball Complex	Ongoing
Youth Soccer	Wednesday, August 5	Soccer Complex	6 – 7 p.m.
Youth Baseball	Thursday, August 6	Dean Rd. Rec. Center	6 – 7 p.m.
Youth Softball	Thursday, August 6	Dean Rd. Rec. Center	6 – 7 p.m.
Youth Cheerleading	Thursday August 6	Dean Rd. Rec. Center	6 – 7 p.m.
Youth Flag Football	Thursday, August 6	Dean Rd. Rec. Center	6 – 7 p.m.
Tackle Football	Saturday, August 8	Dean Rd. Rec. Center	10 a.m. – 12 p.m.

*****Online Fall Sports Registration opens Monday, July 13 and closes Saturday, August 8*****

Final Float-N-Movie of the summer is on Thursday, August 13. Relax in the pool or poolside and enjoy a movie under the stars! It's time to do some sleuthing with the Muppets. Join us for the third and final installment of the Float-N-Movie series: Muppets Most Wanted! Please bring your own float, as none will be provided. Doors will open at 8:15 p.m. and close at 8:45 p.m. The movie will start at 8:30 p.m. and concessions will be sold throughout the evening. This event is FREE with a Splash Pass or \$2 per person (payable to COA).

Summer Outdoor Movie Series Finale: Big Hero 6 Join Hiro and his band of high-tech heroes as they set out to save the day with the finale of our Summer Outdoor Movie Series: Big Hero 6! On Saturday, August 1 join Auburn Parks and Recreation at Duck Samford Park Field 8 beginning at 7:30 p.m. (or 15 minutes after sunset) for some family-friendly fun in the park! Bring a blanket, lawn chairs, a picnic and the whole family (no alcohol or glass containers please). Movies are FREE and open to the public. For venue changes and weather updates, follow the City of Auburn on Facebook at www.facebook.com/CityofAuburnAL. For more information, please contact the Harris Center at 334.501.2930.

August Sports Tournaments Calendar:

Date	Tournament
August 1 – 2	ASU Girls 18u Class A Southern National
August 1 – 2	ASU Girls 14u Class B Southern National
August 7 – 10	Alabama State Jr. Tennis Open
August 21 – 23	Thunder Road Classic Soccer Tournament
August 21 – 23	Adult Southern Tennis Open

Auburn Public Library

For information on library programs for children, please call 501-3196.

Summer Reading Program – It's time to sign up for Summer Reading! This year's theme is "Every Hero Has a Story." Babies through teens may register through July 29. Read and win this summer!

STORYTIME PROGRAMS

Baby Time - Tuesdays at 10:00 a.m. & 1:00 p.m. for ages birth – 18 months and their caregivers.

Toddler Time - Wednesdays at 10:00 a.m. & 1:00 p.m. for ages 18 months – 3 years and their caregivers.

Preschool Time - Thursdays at 10:00 a.m. & 1:00 p.m. for preschoolers ages 3 - 5 years and their caregivers.

Spectrum Storytime – Saturday, 8/15 at 10:00 a.m. Spectrum Storytime (SST) is an educational and interactive program designed for children with sensory integration challenges and their caregivers. For cognitive ages 4 – 7. Registration is required. For more information or to register please call Youth Services at 501-3196.

Family Storytime – Sunday, 8/23 at 4:00 p.m. Bring the whole family and join us for stories, songs, games and family fun!

Legomania – Join us on Saturdays from 9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. for "free play" with Legos®.