

# Open Line

## A Monthly Newsletter for City of Auburn Citizens

November 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](http://www.auburnalabama.org)

email:  
[openline@auburnalabama.org](mailto:openline@auburnalabama.org)



City of Auburn



### Your Guide to the New Corner (Part 2) LED Lights

Since the Corner re-opened in August, many of you have asked about the LED lighting on signal poles, under seat walls and along the curbs. The lights were added as a feature of the Corner Construction project to enhance safety and provide ambiance at the corner. The LED flood lights (mounted on the traffic signal poles) will be used only when the streets are closed and the regular overhead lights can be turned off. The ground, seat wall and flood lights will display appropriate theme colors for events including Auburn University Home football games, major holidays and celebrations, as well as local events. The ground lights will be white Sunday through Thursday nights as an added measure to help clearly delineate the pedestrian areas from the traffic lanes. The seat wall lights will be white on Friday and Saturday nights to provide additional lighting for larger weekend crowds downtown.

The LED lights initially ran in a test mode, with colors rotating to ensure that they worked properly and to achieve "burn-in," allowing the LED lights to maintain a consistent color scheme at different locations. With testing completed, the lights will not continue to rotate colors and will only be used as described above.



### Auburn's New Alleyways

The new Corner is all about creating a pedestrian friendly atmosphere and sense of place at one of Auburn's most iconic locations. In that spirit, Auburn's two primary alleyways have seen a major upgrade to achieve better lighting, enhance pedestrian safety and to improve the aesthetic of these key passageways between downtown businesses and downtown parking. In addition to improving underground water and sewer infrastructure, the Magnolia and College Street alleyways have seen extensive improvements to create even walking surfaces. New lighting and the removal of the roof above the College Street alley all help create a more open, inviting and safe walkway for pedestrians.

### Trees to Return this Fall

The major visual change that remains for downtown is the planting of trees around the new intersection. There are eleven tree wells around the intersection where trees will be planted this fall to complete the look and feel of the new Corner. Until then, the location of the tree wells are currently marked by large planters throughout the downtown area. Trees will be planted between the various seat walls to provide shade, and will be strategically placed to protect the view of the corner. For example, the view from the AU corner lines up directly across the tiger paw to Toomer's Drugs and will now be framed by the new trees.

A team of landscape experts from the City of Auburn, Auburn University and the Auburn Tree Com-



continued on page 2

## New Corner (Part 2)

*continued from page 1*

mission chose Princeton Elms to complement the look and feel of the Corner. The tree wells have the same Silva-Cell technology used for the Auburn Oaks to provide room for root growth and to maximize the health of the trees.

### Come Home to the Corner

Come discover the all new Corner this fall. On Friday Nights before AU home football games, enjoy live entertainment on the Corner from 6 p.m. – 9 p.m. during the "Come Home to the Corner" Friday night events, with a designated "entertainment district" in effect from 5 p.m. – 10 p.m. Come downtown to shop, dine and enjoy live music as you explore the all new Corner. On Friday, November 27, "Come Home to the Corner" will combine with "Blue Friday," featuring a concert in the Gay Street parking lot.

## November 2015 Holiday Schedule

Auburn City Hall, the Auburn Public Library and city facilities will be closed on Wednesday, November 11 in observance of Veterans Day and Thursday and Friday, November 26-27 for Thanksgiving. Public Safety services, including Police, Fire and Communications, will remain on their regular schedules during these holidays. The schedule for garbage, trash, and recycling collection during the week of Veterans Day, November 10-14, and the week of Thanksgiving, November 23-27, will change to the following:

### November

Monday, November 9  
Tuesday, November 10  
Wednesday, November 11  
Thursday, November 12  
Friday, November 13

### Veterans Day

No Change  
No Change  
**HOLIDAY**  
Wednesday's Route  
Thursday's Route

### Thanksgiving

Monday, November 23  
Tuesday, November 24  
Wednesday, November 25

No Change  
No Change  
**WEDNESDAY'S AND THURSDAY'S ROUTES**  
**HOLIDAY**  
**HOLIDAY**

Thursday, November 26  
Friday, November 27

Collection carts and recycled materials must be placed on the curb by 6 a.m. on your scheduled collection day. Please avoid placing items on or near storm drains, mailboxes, utility poles, or other fixed objects. All items should be properly contained or bundled so they do not fall into the street or down storm drains. All carts and collection bins must be removed from the curb by 6 a.m. the following day.

## Document Shredding and Electronics Recycling Event

The City of Auburn and the Auburn Chamber of Commerce will host the annual document shredding and electronics recycling event on Friday, November 6th from 9 a.m. - 1 p.m. at the Chamber of Commerce. There is a 5-box limit for documents and no limit on the number of electronic items accepted.



## Veterans Day 2015

You are invited to attend the City of Auburn's Veterans Day ceremony beginning at 10:00 a.m. on Wednesday, November 11 at the Auburn Veterans Memorial on the corner of Ross Street and Glenn Avenue. Auburn Mayor Bill Ham, Jr. will officiate. Immediately following the ceremony, a reception will be held at the Auburn Chamber of Commerce, located at 714 East Glenn Avenue.

Attendees are encouraged to park at Felton-Little Park, 341 East Glenn Avenue or at the Douglas J. Watson Municipal Complex, 171 North Ross Street. Parking for the disabled will be available on Ross Street between Glenn Avenue and Harper Avenue. In the event of inclement weather, the ceremony will be held in the City Council Chambers at 141 North Ross Street.

A key component of the park are the brick pavers in honor of individual veterans with ties to members of our community. New bricks are installed in time for the Veterans Day ceremony each year. If you would like to honor a loved one who served, bricks are available to purchase for installation prior to Veterans Day 2016. For more information on purchasing a brick, or to see photographs, information and locations for bricks that have been installed to date, please visit [www.auburnalabama.org/Veterans](http://www.auburnalabama.org/Veterans) and click on the Veterans Bricks menu item.

Originally known as Armistice Day, November 11 was set aside in 1919 to honor veterans of World War I, and became a federal holiday in 1938. In 1954, after World War II and Korea, Armistice Day was renamed Veterans Day to recognize American veterans of all wars. Please join us at the Auburn Veterans Memorial on Wednesday, November 11, 2015 to honor those who have served our country.

### Distinguished Veterans Remembered

Each year, at the Mayor's Memorial Day Breakfast, the Veteran's Committee honors a Distinguished Veteran. In 2015, one of Auburn's former Distinguished Veterans, Colonel Andy LaMar, Jr., passed away on June 25, 2015 at the age of 92. In addition to his service to our nation, Colonel LaMar's work in and service to the Auburn community included managing the Village Mall and serving as President of the Auburn Chamber of Commerce. Read about the life and service of Colonel LaMar online at [www.auburnalabama.org/veterans](http://www.auburnalabama.org/veterans).

## Board Vacancies

Two vacancies on the **Parks & Recreation Advisory Board** will be announced at the October 20, 2015 meeting and will be filled at the November 7, 2015 City Council Meeting.

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



## Ward 5 Public Meeting

Ward 5 Councilperson Lynda Tremaine will hold her monthly public meeting for Ward 5 residents on Monday, November 2 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>.

## MEETING SCHEDULE NOVEMBER

**2 Cemeteries Advisory Board**, 4 p.m., Harris Center, 425 Perry Street

**3 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

**4 Board of Zoning Adjustment**, 4:30 p.m., Council Chamber, 141 North Ross Street

**6 Tree Commission**, 11:30 a.m., Chamber of Commerce, 714 E Glenn Avenue

**10 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

**12 Planning Commission**, 5 p.m., Council Chamber, 141 North Ross Street

**17 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

**19 Water Works Board**, 4 p.m., Water Board 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](http://www.auburnalabama.org/boards).**

## 2015 Toy Drive

The City of Auburn Public Safety Department kicked off the 2015 Toy Drive on Tuesday, October 6. The program is designed to assist families in the Auburn community by providing Christmas gifts to needy children ages two through eight.

Auburn residents may register a child to receive a gift at the Auburn Police Division, 141 North Ross Street, on Tuesdays and Wednesdays from 10 a.m. to 11 a.m. The last day to register a child will be Wednesday, November 4th. To receive assistance, a parent or legal guardian must provide their picture ID, the child's social security card and birth certificate, and two of the three following items: a current light bill, water bill or lease / rental agreement.

Anyone wishing to donate to the Auburn Toy Drive can drop off an unwrapped gift at any Auburn Fire Division location or the Auburn Police Division. Thanks to the generosity of Uncle Bob's Self Storage, two remote drop points have also been established at their stores located at 1231 Gatewood Drive and 2020 South College Street.

Donations will be put into age-appropriate categories with delivery scheduled for the week before Christmas. Please remember those who may be less fortunate than you this holiday season. Any donation you can make is extremely important. As always, no monetary donations can be accepted, but any purchased gift is greatly appreciated.

For more information on the Auburn Toy Drive, please call (334) 501-3129.



## Frying a Turkey for the Holidays? Recycle your grease through the City's Cooking Oil/Grease Recycling Program

If your holiday plans include frying a turkey, don't pour the leftover grease down the drain, recycle it through the City of Auburn's Cooking Oil/Grease Recycling Program. To participate, simply pour any used cooking oil (after it has cooled) into its original, leak-proof container and drop it off at the RecycleAuburn Drop-Off Center, located at 365-A North Donahue Drive. While you're there, pick up a new empty container for future use, courtesy of the City of Auburn. Through this program, approximately 5,378 gallons of used cooking oil have been recycled since March 2009.

On August 1, 2011, the City of Auburn's Water Resource Management Department added a curbside grease recycling element to the program. If you would like to utilize the curbside service, or would like to find out more information about this program, please call the Water Resource Management Department at 501-3069 to schedule a free curbside collection.

Please help us keep Auburn's sewers clean by taking advantage of these programs to dispose of household cooking oil and grease in the proper manner.

## 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](mailto: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.*

## Auburn Public Library

**For more information about these and other library programs, please call 501-3190.**

**NaNoWriMo (National Novel Writing Month)** – Want to write your own novel? Learn about self-publishing? Meet local authors? The Auburn Public Library can help you do all of these. NaNoWriMo stands for National Novel Writing Month. Throughout November, budding authors aim to write a novel in 30 days! The Auburn Public Library will be a designated writing space, and we'll host several programs dedicated to the novel writing experience. All NaNoWriMo events are free and open to all ages, except where otherwise noted. Refreshments will be provided at all events.

### STORYTIME

**Baby Time** – Tuesdays at 10:00 a.m. & 1:00 p.m. for ages birth – 24 months and their caregivers.

**Toddler Time** – Wednesdays at 10:00 a.m. & 1:00 p.m. for ages 18 months – 36 months and their caregivers.

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

**Fractured Fairy Tales** – Wednesday, November 18 at 3:30 p.m. for ages 4 – 7, featuring *Jack and the Baked Bean Stalk* by Colin Stimpson

Please note that the library will not host Storytime activities from November 22 through November 28.

### BOOK CLUBS

**Show & Tell** – Monday, November 16 at 4:00 p.m. and 6:30 p.m. at the Auburn Public Library

**Forever Young Adult** – Tuesday, November 17 at 7:00 p.m., at the Auburn Public Library, featuring *I'll Meet You There* by Heather Demetrios

**Read & Reflect** – Tuesday, November 24 at 10:00 a.m. at the Harris Senior Center, featuring *The Sweetness at the Bottom of the Pie* by Alan Bradley

## 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](http://www.auburnalabama.org/parks).**

**Calling all artists!** Area artisans and craftsmen are invited to complete applications for the following upcoming City of Auburn / Auburn Parks and Recreation events: Holiday Art Sale and Auburn CityFest 2016: Art in the Park. The **Holiday Art Sale** will be held on Saturday, December 12 from 9 a.m. – 4 p.m. at the Jan Dempsey Community Arts Center and Harris Center. For applications, dates, deadlines and details, please visit us online at [www.auburnalabama.org/arts](http://www.auburnalabama.org/arts) or call the Jan Dempsey Community Arts Center at (334) 501 – 2963. **Auburn CityFest 2016: Art in the Park** is slated for Saturday, April 30, 2016 from 9 a.m. – 4 p.m. at Kiesel Park. For applications, dates, deadlines and details, please visit us online at [www.auburncityfest.com](http://www.auburncityfest.com) or call Auburn CityFest Headquarters at (334) 501 – 2936.

**Jan Dempsey Community Arts Center Gallery** – Mark your calendars for the Photo XVII Juried Exhibition, which ends on November 20, at the Jan Dempsey Community Arts Center (JDCAC). This is an annual photography competition featuring works by regional artists and photographers. The exhibit is FREE and open to the public weekdays from 8 a.m. – 5 p.m.

**Kreher Preserve and Nature Center: "Turkeys!"** – Join the Kreher Preserve and Nature Center Staff Naturalists for the November Discovery Hike and Nature Walk. This month we will learn about that Thanksgiving-season favorite: the turkey! Practice your turkey call that might bring in a gobbler! The Discovery Hike, designed for families with children ages 5 – 12, will be on Tuesday, November 10 at 3:30 p.m. The Nature Walk, designed for adults, will be on Thursday, November 12 at 8:30 a.m. No pre-registration is required and the event is FREE to the public. Walks will be cancelled in the event of rain. For more information, please visit [www.auburn.edu/preserve](http://www.auburn.edu/preserve), call (334) 844 – 8091 or email [preserve@auburn.edu](mailto:preserve@auburn.edu).

**AACT Fall Show "The Love Cycle"** – The Auburn Area Community Theatre (AACT) presents "The Love Cycle." Featuring the works of Edward Albee and Dorothy Parker, "The Love Cycle" is a series of short plays chronicling the steps of marriage, from puppy love to complications to the sheer comedy that springs from a lifetime together. Performances will be November 6 – 7 at 7:00 p.m. and November 8 at 2 p.m. Tickets go on sale on October 12 and are \$10 for adults and \$8 for students, children and seniors. For information about "The Love Cycle," ticket purchases/reservations or about AACT, please visit us online at [www.auburnact.org](http://www.auburnact.org).

**Tickets for Polar Express are on sale November 4 – 5 at JDCAC** – All aboard! Children ages 5 and up are invited to hop aboard the Polar Express on Saturday, December 5 at the Jan Dempsey Community Arts Center. The "train" departs at 10 a.m. and 1 p.m. Activities will include: arts and crafts, sweets and treats and much more! Children are encouraged to wear their favorite holiday pajamas while they participate in indoor and outdoor activities. Tickets for the event will be on sale Wednesday and Thursday, November 4 and 5, only from 9 a.m. – 4 p.m. at the Jan Dempsey Community Arts Center. The cost is \$10 per person. A limited number of tickets are available for purchase and last year's event SOLD OUT. Be sure to purchase your tickets in advance! For more information, please visit [www.auburnalabama.org/parks](http://www.auburnalabama.org/parks) or contact the Arts Center at (334) 501 – 2963.

**Save the Date!** – Be sure to mark your calendars for these upcoming events and important dates with Auburn Parks and Recreation!

- **Auburn Parks and Recreation Facility Closures:** Veterans Day, Wednesday, November 11  
Thanksgiving, Thursday & Friday, November 26 – 27
- **Winter Quarter Program Registration** begins November 2
- **Adult Basketball Registration** begins November 2
- **High School Basketball Registration** ends November 25