

Open Line

A Monthly Newsletter for City of Auburn Citizens

May 2016

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City of Auburn



18th Annual Mayor's Memorial Day Breakfast

Mayor Bill Ham, Jr. and the Auburn Veterans Committee cordially invite you to attend the 18th Annual Mayor's Memorial Day Breakfast on Monday, May 30th at 8 a.m. at the Hotel at Auburn University and Dixon Conference Center. This annual event is held to honor the United States Military and those soldiers who have made the supreme sacrifice. Tickets for the breakfast will be available starting April 25th at City Hall for \$25 each or \$250 for a table of 10. Proceeds from ticket sales go to the Auburn Veterans Memorial Fund.

Command Sergeant Major Bennie G. Adkins will be the guest of honor and recipient of the 2016 City of Auburn Distinguished Veteran Award. This year marks the fifth year the Auburn Heroes Remembered Award will be presented to the family of a local distinguished veteran who has passed away. The 2016 Auburn Heroes Remembered Award will be in honor of Colonel Platt Boyd.

Immediately following the breakfast, at 10 a.m., the City of Auburn will hold a memorial wreath laying ceremony at the Auburn Veterans Memorial Monument, located at the northeast corner of Ross Street and Glenn Avenue. Ceremony attendees are encouraged to park at the Douglas J. Watson Municipal Complex and Felton Little Park. During the ceremony, Ross Street will be closed from Glenn Avenue to Harper Avenue to allow for ADA accessible parking.

Please join us on Monday, May 30th, as we honor the men and women who have courageously served our country. For more information, please visit auburnalabama.org/veterans or contact the City of Auburn Economic Development Department at 501-7270.



Memorial Day Schedule

On Monday, May 30th, Auburn City Hall will be closed in observance of Memorial Day. Police, Fire, and Communications will remain on their regular schedules. Collection of garbage, trash, and recycling for the week of May 30- June 3 will change as follows:

May	Memorial Day Holiday
Monday, May 30	HOLIDAY
Tuesday, May 31	Monday's route
Wednesday, June 1	Tuesday's route
Thursday, June 2	Wednesday's route
Friday, June 3	Thursday's route

Collection carts and recycled materials should be placed at 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.



Big Event 2016

The Auburn University Student Government Association held this year's Big Event on March 5th. This one-day, student-run service project is sponsored by Auburn University's Office of Student Involvement, and serves as a way for Auburn students to give back to the community. Pictured are students who worked in Ward 3, where they collected 28 bags of litter in 3 hours.



Housing Fair

The City of Auburn, in partnership with the City of Opelika and the East Alabama Medical Center, is hosting a housing and community development information fair on Tuesday, April 19th from 5:30 - 6:30 p.m. at the Goodwill Career Center located at 3740 Pepperell Parkway in Opelika.

Housing professionals will be on hand to discuss home buying opportunities, affordable housing, and fair housing. They will also present information on local programs for first-time homebuyers as well as existing homeowners and renters.

This fair is free and open to the public. For more information, contact Todd White at (334) 501-7277.

New Traffic Signal Begins Operation

The new traffic signal at the intersection of Cox Road and Longleaf Drive began operation in March. Residents are asked to exercise caution as they become accustomed to the new signal.

Ward 5 Public Meeting

Ward 5 Councilperson Lynda Tremaine will hold her monthly public meeting for Ward 5 residents on Monday, May 2nd 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 auburnalabama.org/maps/Voting-Ward.

Free Parking

Downtown Parking is free between Auburn University Semesters. Free parking between Spring and Summer semesters begins May 7, 2016 and runs through Wednesday, May 18, 2016.

In addition to on-street parking available throughout downtown, parking can be found on and surrounding the first floor of the Auburn Municipal Parking Deck and in the municipal parking lot on Gay Street.

Enjoy free parking as you shop, dine and enjoy all that downtown Auburn has to offer.

Irrigation Meters

Spring is here and the Water Works Board of the City of Auburn would like to remind its customers that irrigation meters are available for watering your lawn or garden. Charges for water usage through irrigation accounts are not tied to sewer fees, lowering the cost of watering. There are setup costs involved, as a standard ¾ inch irrigation meter will typically cost approximately \$1,500, with other charges that may apply based on location and other details. Building a home is the ideal time to install an irrigation meter, but if you plan to stay in your current home and if you regularly water your lawn or garden, an irrigation meter may save you money. For more information, please contact the Utility Billing Office at (334) 501-3050.

Board Vacancies

Two vacancies for the **Historic Preservation Commission** were announced at the March 22, 2016 meeting and will be filled at the April 19, 2016 City Council Meeting.



One vacancy for the **Board of Education** was announced at the March 22, 2016 meeting and will be filled at the April 19, 2016 City Council Meeting.

One vacancy for the **Cemeteries Advisory Board** was announced at the March 22, 2016 meeting and will be filled at the April 19, 2016 City Council Meeting.

One vacancy for the **Water Works Board** was announced at the April 5, 2016 meeting and will be filled at the May 3, 2016 City Council Meeting.

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

Auburn/Opelika a Top Small Metro for Attracting Business

METROS WITH POPULATION LESS THAN 200,000

The Auburn-Opelika Metro was named a top ten metro under 200,000 for attracting businesses by Site Selection magazine. In Alabama, both Decatur-Morgan County and Auburn-Opelika were named on the list. Auburn-Opelika tied for sixth place with Lima, Ohio, while Decatur-Morgan County tied for ninth place with Burlington, North Carolina.

The rankings are based on the number of projects announced in 2015, with 10 attributed to Auburn-Opelika.

For Auburn's part, industrial locations and expansions continued at a healthy pace in 2015. Local industry and job growth included seven new or expanding industries which are expected to generate a combined 297 jobs with a combined capital investment of \$77,214,400.

2015	2014	Metro	State	Count
1	2	Sioux City	Iowa-Neb.-S.D.	24
2	3	Bowling Green	Ky.	18
T3	6	Gainesville	Ga.	15
T3	24	Janesville-Beloit	Wis.	15
5	93	Altoona	Pa.	12
T6	31	Auburn-Opelika	Ala.	10
T6	24	Lima	Ohio	10
8	NA	Decatur	Ill.	9
T9	9	Burlington	N.C.	8
T9	13	Decatur	Ala.	8

Sources: Conway Projects Database & SiteSelection.com

White Goods Tags No Longer Required

At the March 22nd City Council Meeting, Council members passed an ordinance rescinding the requirement that residents purchase a "white goods" tag to affix to appliances before disposing of them. The change allows the City's Environmental Services Department to pick-up appliances such as dishwashers, microwaves, water heaters, etc. at the curbside with no white goods tag and no additional cost to customers.

Effective immediately, Auburn residents simply need to place appliances at the curb on their regular garbage and recycling pickup days for them to be picked up.

Trash Amnesty Week May 16-20

During the spring, many Auburn residents work to beautify homes and yards. During the week of May 16-20, 2016, fees normally assessed to Auburn residents for the collection of oversized yard debris and other bulky waste will be waived to accommodate these "spring cleaning" needs. Residents are asked to abide by the following guidelines when placing items out for collection:

- Debris should be placed at the curb no later than 6:00 a.m. on your regularly scheduled collection day. Please avoid placing items on or near mailboxes, utility boxes or 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.
- The City will accept yard waste, appliances, and bulky items for collection. No other waste materials, including household garbage or hazardous waste, should be placed out for collection with debris.
- Limbs and other debris should be no longer than 5 feet in length.
- To facilitate recycling efforts, please separate all wood debris, including limbs and grass clippings, from metal items.

Every reasonable effort will be made to maintain the established collection schedule but due to the large volume of debris expected during Trash Amnesty Week, citizens may experience a delay in their collection schedule.

For more information, please contact the City of Auburn Environmental Services Department at 501-3080.

MEETING SCHEDULE

MAY

- 2 Cemeteries Advisory Board**, 4 p.m., Harris Center, 425 Perry Street
- 3 Parks & Recreation Advisory Board**, 11:45 a.m., Harris Center, 425 Perry Street
- Committee of the Whole-Citizen Survey Results Presentation** 6:00 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 Conference Room, 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 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
- 24 Library Board**, 4 p.m., Library Conference Room, 749 East Thach 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.

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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 501-7266.

upCOMING 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.

Rescheduled: Lauren Bowling from www.lbeandthemoneytree.com, a widely read financial blog, will present "7 Financial Mistakes and How to Avoid Them." Lauren has been featured in a variety of media outlets including Forbes, Redbook, and Woman's Day. Sunday, May 22- 3 p.m.-4 p.m. in the Library Atrium

2nd Annual Summer Reading Kickoff Saturday, May 28- 10 a.m.-12 p.m. Babies, Children, Teens, and Their Families on the Library Lawn. It's time to sign-up for Summer Reading! This year's theme for children is "On Your Mark, Get Set, Read," and the theme for teens is "Get in the Game: Read." We'll have entertainers, games, and more!

LitWits Book Club ages 13-18 Tuesday, May 3- 4:30 p.m.-5:30 p.m. in the Program Room Book Selection: Book Party (Your Choice)

Genealogy 101: Third Thursday Sessions Thursday, May 19 3:00 p.m. - 4:00 p.m. Join us for a round table discussion on using DNA as a tool in family history research. Come and share!

There will be no storytimes in the month of May.

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 auburnalabama.org/parks.

Sundown Concert Series – Enjoy a night (or several nights) of entertainment at Auburn's newest park... Town Creek Park. Nestled in the middle of Auburn, Town Creek Park is the perfect setting to listen to the enchanting sounds of local and regional musicians. Bring the family, a picnic, and your lawn chairs and enjoy a free, relaxing evening of entertainment before the dog days of summer set in. Speaking of... don't forget to bring your favorite four-legged friends! Join us every Thursday evening in May! FREE to the Public. For more information, please contact Dana Stewart at (334) 501-2939 or email dstewart@auburnalabama.org.

S'more Fun with Mom – Get ready for some mother – son fun at S'more Fun with Mom, Lee County's Mother/Son adventure, co-hosted by the Kreher Preserve & Nature Center and the City of Auburn Parks & Recreation. This fun evening will include a night hike, cookout, s'mores, a craft and storytelling! S'more Fun with Mom participants can choose between two sessions: Thursday, May 12 or Friday, May 13, with rain dates on May 19 and 20. Both sessions will be held from 6 – 8:30 p.m. Our mother/son duos may also commemorate this special night with a 5x7 portrait by JRogers Photography at \$10 per image, with proceeds benefiting the Kreher Preserve and Nature Center. Ticket sales begin March 21 and are \$20 per mother/son couple and \$5 per additional son. Visit the Kreher Preserve and Nature Center online marketplace to purchase tickets (one mother/son ticket per purchase). Registration is limited to 50 couples per night. Beginning Monday, March 21, order your tickets at the following address: https://tpg.auburn.edu/ustores/web/store_main.jsp?STOREID=175 For more information, email Kreher Preserve Outreach Administrator, Jennifer Lolley, at jlrl0006@auburn.edu or call 334-844-8091.

AACT Summer Production Auditions: Monty Python's Spamalot – Find your grail! Lovingly ripped off from the classic film comedy "Monty Python and the Holy Grail," "Spamalot" retells the legend of King Arthur and his Knights of the Round Table, and features a bevy of showgirls, not to mention cows, killer rabbits and French people. The 2005 Broadway production won 3 Tony Awards, including Best Musical. Come audition for the Lady of the Lake & the Laker Girls, the French taunters, Not Dead Fred, Minstrels, Knights, the Historian, Tim and Sir Arthur's horse. Auditions are open to adults 18 and up. Please prepare 60 seconds of a song, and be prepared to learn a short dance sequence. Production volunteers are also encouraged to attend auditions.

SAVE THE DATE! – **Camp Kaleidoscope online registration** begins on Monday, May 2. Campers must be registered by 5 p.m. on the Thursday prior to the week they wish to attend. For more information, please visit www.auburnalabama.org/parks or view our brochure at www.auburnalabama.org/parks/brochure or pick up a copy at any Auburn Parks and Recreation facility today.

All Auburn Parks and Recreation facilities will be closed on Monday, May 30 in observance of Memorial Day, with the exception of the Samford and Drake pools. Please visit www.auburnalabama.org/parks or call (334) 501-2930 for more information.

Summer Quarter Registration begins on May 2 and ends on May 31. Check out all of our summer programming in our brochure online at www.auburnalabama.org/parks/brochure or pick up at copy at any Auburn Parks and Recreation facility today.

Youth Soccer: Auburn Thunder Soccer Camp/Tryouts/Registration will begin on Monday, May 2. Registration for **Soccer Rising Tiger** ends on Friday, May 27. **Advanced Tryout Registration** will be from April 25 – June 3 at the Harris Center. **Auburn Thunder Advanced Tryouts** will be Monday, June 6 – Wednesday, June 8, with a make-up day on Monday, June 13. For more information, please visit www.auburnalabama.org/athletics.

Coming Soon...Jan Dempsey Community Arts Center Exhibitions – Mark your calendar for the 18th Annual Juried Art Exhibition at the Jan Dempsey Community Arts Center from Monday, May 16 through Thursday, June 30. Exhibitions are free and open to the public Monday – Friday from 8 a.m. – 5 p.m. For more information, please call the Arts Center at (334) 501-2963 or visit www.auburnalabama.org/arts.

Summer Swim Season – Splash into summer at Auburn City Pools! The summer swim season opens this month with Samford Pool opening on Saturday, May 28 and Drake Pool opening on Monday, May 30. Pool season lasts from Saturday, May 28 through Monday, September 5. Daily swim times can be found at www.auburnalabama.org/pools. Daily admission to either pool is \$2 per person, or FREE with purchase of a Splash Pass and children ages 1 and under. To purchase a Splash Pass, please visit the Harris Center on weekdays between 8 a.m. – 5 p.m. There will be plenty of fun activities at the pools this summer. From swim team to movies, swim lessons to luau, we will have something for everyone! To find out more about our summer programming, please visit www.auburnalabama.org/pools or view a copy of our brochure at www.auburnalabama.org/brochure or pick up a copy at any Auburn Parks and Recreation facility today.

Fishing Rodeo – Cast into summer with the 24th Annual Fishing Rodeo, sponsored by Auburn Parks and Recreation and Evans Realty! Join us at the lake at Auburn Technology Park South on Saturday, May 14 from 8 – 11 a.m. Bring your lucky fishing pole and we will supply the bait. Door prizes will be given out to lucky participants and prizes will be awarded to the biggest fish caught in each age category. We will also give out an award for the most fish caught overall. This event is a great chance to bring kids and their parents together with America's favorite pastime... FISHING! The cost is \$5 per child and can be paid at the event in the form of cash or check. Checks can be made payable to COA. There is a limit of five fish per child and parents and guardians must stay with their child at all times. Questions? Contact Gabby Meredith at (334) 501-2946.