

Open Line

A Monthly Newsletter for City of Auburn Citizens

May 2019

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City of Auburn

21st Annual Mayor's Memorial Day Breakfast

Auburn Mayor Ron Anders and the Auburn Veterans Committee invite you to join us at the 21st Annual Mayor's Memorial Day Breakfast on Monday, May 27, as we honor the U.S. Military and those who have made the ultimate sacrifice.

This year's event will begin at 8 a.m. at the Hotel at Auburn University and Dixon Conference Center. The Auburn University Naval ROTC will present the colors, and the Providence Singers—directed by Dr. Tom Smith, former head of the Auburn University Music Department and founder of the AU Singers—will perform the National Anthem and the Medley of Service Songs.

Retired Sgt. Buck Marsh will be the guest of honor and the recipient of the 2019 Distinguished Veteran Award. For the eighth year, the Auburn Heroes Remembered Award will be presented to the family of a local distinguished veteran who has passed away. This year's award will be in honor of Lt. Col. Ted Sargent, U.S. Marine Corps and posthumous recipient of the Navy Cross for his service in Vietnam.

A memorial wreath laying ceremony will follow the breakfast and award presentations at 10 a.m. at the Auburn Veterans Memorial Monument, located at the northeast corner of Ross Street and Glenn Avenue. Attendees are encouraged to park at the Douglas J. Watson Municipal Complex and Felton Little Park. Ross Street between Glenn and Harper avenues

and Glenn Avenue between Burton and North Debardeleben streets will be closed during the ceremony to provide room for on-street, accessible parking.

Tickets are \$25 a person or \$250 for a table of 10 and will be available at City Hall beginning April 22. Ticket proceeds go to the Auburn Veterans Memorial Fund. Please join us as we honor the men and women who have courageously risked their lives and those who have given their lives in service of our country. Visit auburnalabama.org/veterans or contact City Hall at (334) 501-7260 for more information.



City Holiday Schedule

Auburn City Hall and most City facilities will be closed in observance of Memorial Day on Monday, May 27. Police, fire and communications will remain on their regular schedules. Garbage, trash and recycling collection will be delayed by one day during the week of May 27-31 as listed below:

Monday, May 27	HOLIDAY
Tuesday, May 28	Monday's route
Wednesday, May 29	Tuesday's route
Thursday, May 30	Wednesday's route
Friday, May 31	Thursday's route

Kristen Reeder appointed new HR director



After six years with the City of Auburn, Senior Human Resources Generalist Kristen Reeder began her new role as Human Resources director on April 1. Reeder was selected to take the place of retiring Director Steve Reeves, who served as the director since 1993.

Reeder is an Auburn High School graduate with a bachelor's in human

resource management from Capella University and a master's in management, strategy and leadership from Michigan State University. Having spent most of her life in Auburn, she is looking forward to furthering her service to the community she loves.

"I am so fortunate to be able to take over a department that has a great reputation and is often looked at as a model human resources department," Reeder said. "The work Steve Reeves has done over the past 25-plus years as human resources director to establish this department gives me an amazing foundation to work from."

Reeder has 19 years' worth of experience in human resources. She started her career in 2000 as an operations manager for Cleveland Brothers, Inc. in Auburn. Three years later, her family moved to Atlanta where she served as the human resources/payroll coordinator at Pine State Mortgage. Reeder was promoted to director of human resources after a year, implementing organizational design and staffing changes to accommodate for changes in the company's workforce, among other duties. After six years, Reeder became the human resources manager for The Schenck School in Atlanta where she served for three years before returning to Auburn.

Reeder began her career with the City of Auburn in 2013. Her responsibilities have covered the gamut of human resources work, from making sure employees receive equitable pay and managing the recruitment process to creating monthly employee newsletters and developing employee training programs.

"Kristen has a track record of excellence in all of her efforts, and I'm excited to add her to the City's management team," said City Manager James Buston. "The role of human resources director is an important one, often working behind the scenes to make sure every employee provides excellent customer service to Auburn's residents. I am confident that Kristen has the skills and experience needed to lead this department's efforts to even further success."

During her time with the City, Reeder considers one of

her greatest achievements to be the creation of the City of Auburn Academy, a program that allows employees to get a glimpse into the day-to-day work of other departments. The year-long program is now in its fifth year.

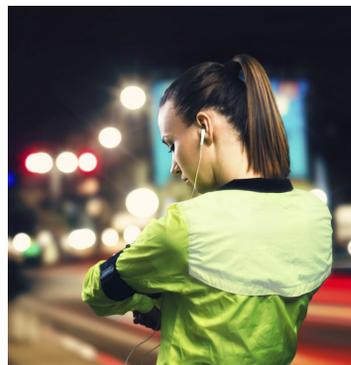
"One of my favorite things about the program is watching the passion employees have for their work," Reeder said. She remembered a maintenance worker who "lit up" when he explained his job to fellow employees, enthusiastically detailing his duties and coming out of his shell.

Moving forward, Reeder plans to build on the foundation set by Reeves' 25 years of service and to keep the department prepared for the changes and challenges of the future.

"Kristen has worked very hard to prepare herself for this opportunity," Reeves said. "She brings a great deal of knowledge, experience, energy and enthusiasm to her new role in Human Resources. Kristen is a member of an exceptional team, and they will continue to support ethical and effective public service to the Auburn community. I am very proud of Kristen, and I know she will provide good leadership."

Check out the June Open Line for a feature on retiring Director Steve Reeves.

Travel(ing) with Care after dark



Did you know that a pedestrian was killed every 1.5 hours in the U.S. in 2017, according to the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration? The majority of these deaths occurred at night. Here in Auburn, we're constantly improving our sidewalks,

crosswalks and streets to make traveling at night safer for everyone, but pedestrians and bicyclists can play a vital part in staying safe by making sure they're visible to motorists after the sun goes down.

Don't ever assume that a driver can see you—studies have shown that pedestrians wearing dark clothing are first visible to drivers at 55 feet away, yet a car traveling 25 mph requires 155 feet to stop. In fact, it's illegal in Auburn to travel by foot after sunset without making yourself visible to vehicles from a minimum of 500 feet whether you're exercising or just walking from point A to point B.

Wearing reflective gear is the first step to making sure motorists can still spot you when the sun goes down. In Auburn, you're required to wear reflective material between your waist and shoulders during "hours of darkness," or between half an hour before sunset to half an hour before sunrise. Reflectors allow motorists to spot you from 500 feet away, giving them a 10-second

cushion to slow down and safely navigate around you. You can also:

- Wear bright colors. Pedestrians and cyclists who wear brightly colored clothing enhance their visibility even more from dusk to dawn.
- Carry a flashlight or make sure you have headlights. Bicyclists must have an operating headlight on the front of their helmet and red reflectors on the front and rear spokes of both wheels and pedals. An additional red reflector on the rear of a bike is also required by state law.
- Keep alert at all times. Don't be distracted by electronic devices that take your eyes and ears off the road.
- Never assume a driver sees you. Make eye contact with drivers as they approach to make sure you are seen.
- Be proactive. If you are somewhere past nightfall and will be walking or biking home, always plan ahead. Pack light reflectors in a bag so you will be prepared to safely make your way home.

So next time you're taking the dog out for a stroll and the lights are getting dim, make sure you're prepared! Find more tips on how to #TravelwithCare at TravelwithCareAuburn.com, the hub for information about the City's annual transportation safety campaign.

27th Annual Fishing Rodeo



Cast into summer with the 27th Annual Fishing Rodeo on Saturday, May 18, at the lake at Auburn Technology Park South from 7-11 a.m.! The first 175 children will receive a FREE rod and reel courtesy of Evans Realty, and bait will be provided by Auburn Parks and Recreation. Attendees will have a chance to win door prizes, and awards will be given to the biggest fish caught in each age category and the most fish caught overall.

The cost is \$5 per child and can be paid by cash or check. Children are limited to bringing home five fish, and parents must stay with their children at all times. For more information contact Parks and Recreation at (334) 501-2930 or webparksrec@auburnalabama.org.

ARKAL Automotive expands in Auburn



ARKAL Automotive USA is expanding its Auburn operations through an investment of \$2.3 million, creating an additional 25 jobs over the next two years. The Israel-based company's injection molding operation opened its first U.S. location in Auburn in 2011. Since then, several expansions have resulted in an operation of over 150 employees.

"We're excited to share this good news from ARKAL. Their investment in Auburn is another success in our efforts to recruit technology-based companies that can succeed in the global market and provide lasting and well-paying jobs in a clean and safe environment in Auburn," said Auburn Mayor Ron Anders.

ARKAL Automotive's operation in the Auburn Technology Park West is part of a global network of production locations serving leading car manufacturers including Daimler, BMW, Volkswagen/Audi and General Motors.

"We are grateful for the pro-business attitude of the leadership in Auburn and the valuable support we received over the years from the economic development team," said Rami Bitensky, General Manager of ARKAL Automotive Plastic.

The company has announced several open positions in its tool maintenance, process engineering, automation, and maintenance departments at its Auburn location and is seeking motivated and skilled individuals to work on state-of-the-art molds. For more information on ARKAL, visit arkal-automotive.com or contact the City of Auburn Economic Development Office at (334) 501-7270 or webcondev@auburnalabama.org.

APL's Summer Learning Challenge



Go on a reading adventure this summer by taking the Auburn Public Library's Summer Learning Challenge! Complete 20 hours of reading this summer to earn prizes and chances to win even more prizes. Keep track of your reading on Beanstack, our challenge app.

The Summer Learning Challenge begins on Wednesday, May 22. Stop by the library any time to register, or you can download Beanstack and begin at home then stop by the library for your starter prize. Find more info at auburnalabama.org/library.

MAY UPCOMING EVENTS

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



City of Auburn

View our online edition of
Open Line at auburnalabama.org/openline.
Find an up-to-date meeting schedule at
auburnalabama.org/boards-and-commissions/meeting-schedule.

5	6	7	8	9	10	11	
Zenith®e Class 9 p.m.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Planning Commission Public Meeting Room Committee/Advisory Board 4 p.m. Water 4 Meeting 5:30 p.m. @ Auburn Public Library Registration on-site for season 1 swim lessons 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Baby Time 9:30 a.m., 10:30 a.m. and 1 p.m. Park & Recreation Address: Board 11:45 a.m. Committee of the Whole 1:10 City Council 7 p.m. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Toddler Time 9:30 a.m., 10:30 a.m. and 1 p.m. Board of zoning adjustment 4:30 p.m. Toddler Time 9:30 a.m., 10:30 a.m. and 1 p.m. Letter to Mom 3:30 p.m. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Preadol Storyline 9:30 a.m., 10:30 a.m. and 1 p.m. Gamer's Society 4:45:30 p.m. Sundown Concert Series 6:7:30 p.m. @ Town Creek Park Pruning Commission 5 p.m. Gamer's Society 4:45:30 p.m. Pruning Commission 5 p.m. Sundown Concert Series 6:7:30 p.m. @ Town Creek Park 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Preadol Storyline 9:30 a.m., 10:30 a.m. and 1 p.m. Gamer's Society 4:45:30 p.m. Sundown Concert Series 6:7:30 p.m. @ Town Creek Park Pruning Commission 5 p.m. Gamer's Society 4:45:30 p.m. Sundown Concert Series 6:7:30 p.m. @ Town Creek Park 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Paper 1 Show 10:30 p.m. @ 5:30 p.m. City Council Agenda Review 4 p.m. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> STEA Storylines 10 a.m. Middle School Book Club 1:30 p.m. STEA Storylines 10 a.m. Middle School Book Club 1:30 p.m.
12	13	14	15	16	17	18	
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Baby Time 9:30 a.m., 10:30 a.m. and 1 p.m. 50+ Bingo 10:30 a.m. @ Hibernia Center Historic Preservation Commission meeting Starring a Business in Lee County 3:30-5:30 p.m. Board of Education 6 p.m. Stanford Pool games for Empty Bird Season 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Toddler Time 9:30 a.m., 10:30 a.m. and 1 p.m. Toddler Time 9:30 a.m., 10:30 a.m. and 1 p.m. Summer Learning Challenge Begins 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Preadol Storyline 9:30 a.m., 10:30 a.m. and 1 p.m. Gamer's Society 4:45:30 p.m. Sundown Concert Series 6:7:30 p.m. @ Town Creek Park 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Preadol Storyline 9:30 a.m., 10:30 a.m. and 1 p.m. Gamer's Society 4:45:30 p.m. Sundown Concert Series 6:7:30 p.m. @ Town Creek Park 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 27th Annual Fishing Derby 8:1 a.m. @ Lake Scott STEA Storylines 10 a.m. 	
19	20	21	22	23	24	25	
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Baby Time 9:30 a.m., 10:30 a.m. and 1 p.m. Greenspace Advisory Board Noon Library Board 4 p.m. Committee of the Whole 1:10 City Council 7 p.m. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Toddler Time 9:30 a.m., 10:30 a.m. and 1 p.m. Summer Learning Challenge Begins 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Preadol Storyline 9:30 a.m., 10:30 a.m. and 1 p.m. Gamer's Society 4:45:30 p.m. Water Works Board 4 p.m. Sundown Concert Series 6:7:30 p.m. @ Town Creek Park 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Preadol Storyline 9:30 a.m., 10:30 a.m. and 1 p.m. Gamer's Society 4:45:30 p.m. Water Works Board 4 p.m. Sundown Concert Series 6:7:30 p.m. @ Town Creek Park 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Registration Deadline for Fishing Derby ends its Score Camp 1 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Stanford Avenue Pool Opening Day Auburn Public Library auburnalabama.org/library (334) 501-3198 Parks and Recreation auburnalabama.org/parks (334) 501-2580
26	27	28	29	30	31		
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Mayor's Memorial Day Breakfast 		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Sundown Concert Series 6:7:30 p.m. @ Town Creek Park 			

MANAGEMENT TEAM

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