

Open Line

A Monthly Newsletter for City of Auburn Citizens

October 2006

City Council

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Auburn's New City Council



On Tuesday, August 22 and Tuesday, September 12, Auburn voters elected the members of City Council that will serve the City government for the next four years. The new City Council will hold an organizational meeting and be sworn in by Municipal Judge Joe Bailey on Monday, October 2 at 10:00 a.m. in the City Council Chamber, located at 141 North Ross Street.

The City's elected officials for 2006-2010 are:

Mayor
Bill Ham, Jr.

Ward 1 Arthur L. Dowdell, Sr.
Ward 2 Sheila H. Eckman
Ward 3 Thomas H. Worden
Ward 4 Brent Beard

Ward 5 Robin Kelley
Ward 6 Dick Phelan
Ward 7 Gene Dulaney
Ward 8 Bob Norman

The new Council's contact information is updated on the cover of this month's *Open Line* and is available online at www.auburnalabama.org/citycouncil/members. The City Council meets on the first and third Tuesday of every month at 7:30 p.m. in the Council Chamber. The Council convenes as a Committee of the Whole prior to each Council meeting. Council agendas are posted on the City's web site on the Friday afternoon prior to the next Council meeting at www.auburnalabama.org/citycouncil/agenda.

For more information on the City Council, please visit www.auburnalabama.org or contact the Office of the City Manager at 501-7260.

Auburn's Interchanges

With the final phase of construction nearly complete at South College Street/Highway 147 (Exit 51), attention has turned to the Bent Creek Interchange (Exit 57). Construction on the Bent Creek Interchange upgrades began on Monday, August 14. The Alabama Department of Transportation (ALDOT) will be managing this project for the duration of construction. The project includes improvements to the Interstate on and off ramps, the construction of a new bridge, and minor traffic reconfigurations. City and State officials hope to have construction completed by late summer 2007. In addition, construction on Auburn's new \$18.4 million interchange, the Auburn Technology Park Interchange (Exit 50), is expected to begin later this year.

City, State, and Federal officials have worked together to ensure that Auburn's interchanges have the necessary upgrades to help relieve traffic congestion and bolster the City's economy by providing infrastructure needed for commercial and industrial growth.



Governor Bob Riley, Representative Mike Hubbard, and Mayor Bill Ham discuss the progress of the construction at the Bent Creek Interchange, Exit 57.

Open Line

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City of Auburn



Change Your Clock – Change Your Battery

Daylight Saving Time ends on Sunday, October 29. Remember to move your clocks back one hour and change the batteries in your smoke detectors.



Are You Visible?

Fall is here and many citizens are taking advantage of the nice weather to bicycle, jog, or walk. This is a reminder that City Ordinance 1272 requires bicyclists, walkers, and joggers to wear reflective clothing from one-half hour before sunset until one-half hour before sunrise in order to be visible to automobile drivers. This reflective material must be worn between the waist and shoulders on the front and back. In addition, all bicyclists must have an operating headlight on the front of their bicycles and reflectors on the front and rear spokes of the wheels and pedals. Reflective materials must give indication of the presence of a bicyclist, walker or jogger by the headlights of a motor vehicle at a distance of a minimum of 500 feet.



By working together we can help make Auburn's roadways safer for walkers, joggers, bicyclists, and motorists.

Don't Throw that Pumpkin in the Trash Pile!

The City of Auburn is asking residents to place old pumpkins in their City issued roll-out garbage carts instead of placing them in the trash pile at the curb. Pumpkins are considered a food item and must be disposed of in a sanitary landfill. Trash piles should only consist of discarded shrubbery clippings, grass clippings, weeds, fallen leaves, vines, branches, and limbs. For questions concerning items that are acceptable for garbage collection and trash piles, please contact the Environmental Services Department at 501-3080.



Sewer Fees Increase

Auburn residents will notice an increase in their monthly sewer rates beginning October 1. The City of Auburn's FY07&08 Biennial Budget adopted in July of this year calls for a 5% increase in monthly sewer rates. Beginning with bills due by October 15, the new minimum monthly bill (3,000 gallons or less) for a residential customer with a 3/4" water meter will now be \$9.18 each month for sewer services, an increase of 42 cents per month. For the average residential customer with a usage of 7,000 gallons, the new rate will be an increase of 98 cents per month. The increase in rates will be utilized to fund sewer services to Auburn sewer customers. A complete list and schedule of water and sewer fees may be accessed online at www.auburnalabama.org and click on Water and Sewer Fee Schedule.

Auburn's last sewer rate increase went into effect October 1, 2005. For more information on sewer fees, please contact the Water Revenue Office of the Water Works Board at 501-3050.

Meeting Schedule

City Council Organizational Meeting

October 2, 10:00 a.m., Council Chamber

Cemeteries Advisory Board

October 2, 4:00 p.m., Dean Road Recreation Center

Industrial Development Board

October 3, Noon, City Manager's Conference Room, 144 Tichenor Avenue

Parks & Recreation Advisory Board

October 3, 5:30 p.m., Dean Road Recreation Center

City Council

October 3, 7:30 p.m., Council Chamber

Board of Zoning Adjustment

October 4, 4:30 p.m., Council Chamber

Tree Commission

October 6, 11:30 a.m., Chamber of Commerce Conference Room, 714 East Glenn Avenue

Water Works Board

October 9, 4:00 p.m., Water Resource Management Conference Room, 1501 West Samford Avenue

Greenspace Advisory Board

October 10, 11:30 a.m., City of Auburn Meeting Room, 122 Tichenor Avenue

Historic Preservation Commission

October 10, 4:00 p.m., Development Services Building, 171 N. Ross Street

Board of Education

October 10, 6:00 p.m., AHS Multi-Media Room

Planning Commission

October 12, 5:00 p.m., Council Chamber

City Council

October 17, 7:30 p.m., Council Chamber

Bicycle Committee

October 24, 7:00 p.m., Development Services Building, 171 N. Ross Street

Board of Zoning Adjustment

November 1, 4:30 p.m., Council Chamber

Tree Commission

November 3, 11:30 a.m., Chamber of Commerce Conference Room, 714 East Glenn Avenue

-Meeting times and places are subject to change-

Annual Downtown Trick-or-Treat Celebration

Mayor Bill Ham, Jr. has declared that children may trick-or-treat in Auburn on Tuesday, October 31 from 6:00 p.m.-8:00 p.m. only. During that time, the Police Division of the Public Safety Department will provide extra patrol in the City for children and their parents. It is hoped that only small children, accompanied by at least one adult, will participate in this event.



As an alternative to traditional neighborhood trick-or-treating, the City's 6th Annual Downtown Trick-or-Treat celebration will be held on Tuesday, October 31 from 6:00 p.m.-8:00 p.m. in downtown Auburn. Downtown merchants will be giving away candy, coupons, and other goodies to children. Live musical entertainment will also be provided. Don't miss out on your chance to win *The Best Costume Contest*. This special event is for children ages 3-12 years and is free to the public. A parent or guardian must accompany children at all times. The public is encouraged to visit downtown restaurants and businesses prior to the start of Downtown Trick-or-Treat. Downtown streets will be closed from 5:45 p.m.-8:15 p.m. the night of the event. For more information or if your downtown business would like to participate, please contact Parks and Recreation at 501-2930.





Adventures in Art

Students from Auburn's five elementary schools participated in Adventures in Art 2006: Celebrate Africa at the Jan Dempsey Community Arts Center the week of September 11-15. This annual program allows 3rd, 4th, and 5th graders to visit the Arts Center for a day of educational art classes.

Students began their day with a live performance of drumming and dance by The Osumare African Drum and Dance Troupe. Following the performance, students divided into groups and rotated through four workshops, including a dance and drumming workshop with Osumare, a hands-on visual arts workshop where students made mirror-image African masks, a gallery talk with local artist Keith Stephens, and a video workshop.



This year's Adventures in Art program was made possible by the following sponsors: the Auburn Arts Association, Best Western University Convention Center, Bizillia's Café, Brick Oven Pizza Company, The Buffalo Connection, Coca-Cola, Golden Flake, McAlister's Deli, Niffer's Place, the Parks and Recreation Department, Professor ChiChi Lovett and Arts 3010, and ShirtWorks.

For more information on Adventures in Art or to become involved in next year's event, please contact the Jan Dempsey Community Arts Center at 501-2963.

Job Vacancies

The City of Auburn has full-time and part-time positions in a wide range of areas. A few of the current regular, full-time job openings are:

- **Taxpayer Services Representative**
(2,487.43-2,970.13/month)
- **Right-of-Way Maintenance Worker**
(12.01-14.35/hour)



For updated job opportunities, visit the City's website at www.auburnalabama.org, sign up for the e-Notifier at www.auburnalabama.org/e-Notifier, contact the Alabama State Employment Office, or call the City's job line at 501-7250.

The City of Auburn is an equal opportunity employer.

Celebrate Teen Read Week at the Auburn Public Library

The Auburn Public Library presents Teen Read Week October 15-21 at the Auburn Public Library. Activities include a karate demonstration on Sunday, October 15 at 3:00 p.m.; a Sudoku Tournament on Tuesday, October 17 at 4:00 p.m.; and a performance by Flying Jenny, an old time string band, on Thursday, October 19 at 6:30 p.m. All programs will be held at the Auburn Public Library and are open to youth in grades 6-12. For more information, please contact Youth Services at 501-3196.



Board Vacancies

Two vacancies on the **Industrial Development Board** were announced at the September 5 City Council meeting and will be filled at the October 3 meeting. One incumbent has served one full term and one partial term and one incumbent has served a partial term.



Two vacancies on the **Building Board of Adjustments** were announced at the September 19 City Council meeting and will be filled at the October 17 meeting. Both incumbents have served one full term and one partial term.

Three vacancies on the **Tree Commission** were announced at the September 19 City Council meeting and will be filled at the October 17 meeting. Two incumbents have served one full term and one incumbent has served one full term and one partial term.

One vacancy on the **Parks & Recreation Advisory Board** will be announced at the October 17 City Council meeting and will be filled at the November 21 meeting. The incumbent has served two terms.

One vacancy on the **Public Parks & Recreation Advisory Board** will be announced at the November 7 City Council meeting and will be filled at the December 5 meeting. The incumbent has served one term.

Citizens interested in serving are encouraged to contact one of their City Council members or notify the Acting City Manager's Office.

Sundown Concert Series at Kiesel Park

The Sundown Concert Series at Kiesel Park continues this month with the following performances:

- Thursday, October 5 Saugahatchee Ramblers
- Thursday, October 12 Clint Darby and Kip Traylor
- Sunday, October 15* Auburn High School Concert in the Park
- Thursday, October 19 Caterpillars of the Community
- Thursday, October 26 Auburn Knights Orchestra

Bring the family, a picnic, your lawn chairs, and the dog out to enjoy a relaxing evening under the stars. All concerts will begin at 6:00 p.m. and end at 7:30 p.m., unless otherwise noted. For more information, please contact Alison Hall, Community Programs Director, at 501-2940.

**The Auburn High School Concert in the Park begins at 1:00 p.m.*



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up COMING EVENTS



Mark your calendar for the following **Jan Dempsey Community Arts Center Exhibition**. The exhibit is free and open to the public Monday-Friday from 8:00 a.m.-5:00 p.m. For more information, contact the Jan Dempsey Community Arts Center at 501-2963.

• **Photo VIII**, October 4-November 9, Annual Juried Photography Exhibition open to artists and photographers residing in the Southeast.

Preschool Story Time, for children ages 3-5 years, will meet each Wednesday this month at 10:00 a.m. at the Auburn Public Library. Children are encouraged to wear their Halloween costumes to the October 25 story time. For more information, contact Youth Services at 501-3196.



Join the Auburn Public Library for **Toddler Time** each Thursday this month at 10:00 a.m. Toddler Time is a story time for children ages 18 months-3 years and their caregivers. For more information, contact Youth Services at 501-3196.

Salmagundi ©, offered to youth in grades K-5, will meet October 4 at 3:30 p.m. at the Auburn Public Library. This month's theme is pirates. For more information, contact Youth Services at 501-3196.



The Auburn Public Library presents **Rock in a Weary Land: the Black Church in 19th Century Alabama** on October 5 at 6:30 p.m. Dr. Richard Bailey will discuss the history of the African American Church and the role it played in the African American community during and after slavery. For more information, contact Jennifer Brenton at 501-3190 or visit www.auburnalabama.org/library.

The Auburn Public Library invites students in grades 1-3 to the **Magic Tree House Club** on October 11 at 3:30 p.m. For more information, contact Youth Services at 501-3196.



Young Adult Coffeeshouse, for students in grades 6-12, will meet October 12 at 6:30 p.m. at the Auburn Public Library. The program will feature guest speakers from the Lee County Red Cross Club Red. For more information, contact Youth Services at 501-3196.

The **Auburn Public Library Book Group** will meet on October 17 at 6:30 p.m. to discuss classic horror stories. This group is open to the public. For more information, contact Jennifer Brenton at 501-3190.



Join the Auburn Public Library for a **puppet show** featuring Hansel and Gretel on October 18 at 3:30 p.m. at the Auburn Public Library. All ages are invited to attend. For more information, contact Youth Services at 501-3196.



The Auburn Public Library presents **Flying Jenny**, a string quartet from Birmingham, on October 19 at 6:30 p.m. The performance includes old-time string band music and stories about the tunes and the fiddlers who played them. For more information, contact Jennifer Brenton at 501-3190 or visit www.auburnalabama.org/library.

The Auburn Public Library will host its **Annual Halloween Party** on October 26 at 6:30 p.m. Youth ages 3-11 are invited to attend. For more information, contact Youth Services at 501-3196.



The **Auburn Area Community Theatre (AACT)** presents Beth Henley's *The Wake of Jamey Foster* at the Jan Dempsey Community Arts Center October 27-28 and November 2-4 at 7:00 p.m. and October 29 and November 5 at 2:00 p.m. Tickets are \$12 for adults and \$10 for students and seniors. For more information, contact the Jan Dempsey Community Arts Center at 501-2963.



The Auburn Public Library will present a **karate demonstration** by Auburn Karate on October 28 at 10:00 a.m. for youth ages 4-11. For more information, contact Youth Services at 501-3196.

The City's **Annual Veterans Day Ceremony** will be held on Friday, November 10 at 10:00 a.m. at the Auburn Veterans Memorial Monument located on the corner of Ross Street and Glenn Avenue. For more information, contact the Economic Development Department at 501-7270 or see next month's issue of *Open Line*.



The **2007 Parks and Recreation Calendar** will be available on December 1 at City facilities and on the web at www.auburnalabama.org/parks. This free calendar lists special events, program quarters, brochure release dates, Auburn City School holidays, City facility closings, athletic registration dates, City holidays and events, and much more. For additional information, contact Parks and Recreation at 501-2930.

Auburn CityFest 2007 applications for Fine Arts, Arts & Crafts, Food, and Non-Profit Exhibitors are currently available on the CityFest web site at www.auburncityfest.com. Sponsorship opportunities are also available. Auburn CityFest 2006, Auburn's largest FREE festival attracted more than 35,000 people to Kiesel Park. CityFest 2007 will be held on Saturday, April 28, 2007. For more information or to download an application, visit www.auburncityfest.com or contact the CityFest Headquarters at 501-2930.

