

# Open Line

A Monthly Newsletter for City of Auburn Citizens

February 2010

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City of Auburn



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## Bridge Replacement Projects Slated for 2010

### Traffic on Wire Road and North Donahue Drive to be detoured

In 2010, the City of Auburn will move forward with two bridge replacement projects representing an investment totaling more than \$2.8 million in infrastructure improvements. The contract for the Wire Road Bridge Replacement Project was approved by the City Council at its December 1, 2009 meeting. Contracts for the North Donahue Bridge Replacement and North Donahue Drive Widening Projects were scheduled to go before the City Council for consideration in January. In addition to the enhanced safety provided by modern bridge structures, these projects will help enhance traffic flow and reduce congestion along these routes.



Wire Road Bridge

Construction on the **Wire Road Bridge Replacement Project** was slated to begin January 11 and continue for 90 calendar days. The anticipated completion date is mid-April. The project consists of replacing the existing bridge crossing Choctafaula Creek with a wider bridge that includes two 12-foot lanes for traffic with two-foot shoulders and a protected multi-use path for pedestrian and bicycle traffic. This project will also include the extension of the existing portion of the Wire Road Bikeway across the bridge, to Chadwick Lane. During construction, the bridge will be closed to traffic. A detour route will be available from Wire Road to Webster Road, onto Alabama Highway 14, to Chadwick Lane, back to Wire Road. A detour map is available on the City of Auburn's website at [www.auburnalabama.org](http://www.auburnalabama.org).



North  
Donahue  
Bridge

The **North Donahue Bridge Replacement and Widening Projects** are scheduled to get underway in mid-February and are expected to be completed in February 2011. The projects consist of replacing the existing bridge over Saugahatchee Creek and widening North Donahue Drive from north of the bridge to Farmville Road. The existing two-lane bridge will be replaced with a three-lane bridge and include a protected multi-use path for pedestrian and bicycle traffic. The bridge will be raised vertically nine feet to meet Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) requirements. The City of Auburn and Lee County will each participate in the funding for construction of the bridge. Roadway improvements will be completed concurrently with the bridge replacement and will be funded entirely by the City. The portion of North Donahue from north of the bridge to Crescent Boulevard

will be widened from 21 to 24 feet and the portion from Crescent Boulevard to Farmville Road will be widened to accommodate three lanes of traffic. During construction, the North Donahue Bridge will be closed and traffic will be detoured to North College Street. Construction updates and a detour map will be available online at [www.auburnalabama.org](http://www.auburnalabama.org) following Council approval of the contract.

For the latest news and announcements on construction projects, please visit us online at [www.auburnalabama.org](http://www.auburnalabama.org). Construction schedules are subject to change. The City of Auburn appreciates its citizens' patience and understanding as we work to make Auburn a better place to live, work, and raise a family.

## Construction Updates and Road Closings

For the latest information on construction updates and road closings, please visit our website at [www.auburnalabama.org](http://www.auburnalabama.org).

## CompPlan 2030 Update

Development of CompPlan 2030, the City of Auburn's new comprehensive plan, is continuing. Approximately 80 people attended the first public meeting in October 2009 to offer their input on Auburn's future. The next phase of input involves meetings with various stakeholder organizations to seek input on a variety of issues. Meetings will be organized around issue areas, and organizations with interests or responsibilities related to each issue area will be invited. For example, for the water quality issue area, invitees will include local, state, and federal government agencies, Auburn University-associated institutes, and non-profits that advocate for protection of water quality. Input from these issues and needs meetings, as well as from the first public meeting, will be available for review at the second public meeting. The date for Public Meeting #2 is anticipated to be sometime during the latter part of February 2010.

Please visit [www.auburnalabama.org/compplan2030](http://www.auburnalabama.org/compplan2030) for the latest news, announcements, and information on the CompPlan, including the schedule and agenda for Public Meeting #2. As part of Auburn's open government process, citizens are encouraged to participate in CompPlan 2030 and help determine the future of *The Loveliest Village on the Plains*. For more information, please visit [www.auburnalabama.org/compplan2030](http://www.auburnalabama.org/compplan2030) or contact Justin Steinmann in the City of Auburn Planning Department at 501-3045 or [jsteinmann@auburnalabama.org](mailto:jsteinmann@auburnalabama.org).

## FEMA Floodplain Maps and Flood Insurance Study

Property owners affected by the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) Floodplain Maps and Flood Insurance Study are encouraged to visit the City of Auburn's FEMA webpage at [www.auburnalabama.org/fema](http://www.auburnalabama.org/fema). The proposed maps are scheduled to go into effect in July.

For more information, please visit the City's FEMA webpage at [www.auburnalabama.org/fema](http://www.auburnalabama.org/fema) or contact the City of Auburn Public Works Department at 501-3000 or [webpw@auburnalabama.org](mailto:webpw@auburnalabama.org).



## Call for Entries to Auburn Preservation League Juried Photography Exhibition

The Auburn Preservation League (APL), in partnership with the Auburn Arts Association and the Jan Dempsey Community Arts Center, will accept entries for its juried photography exhibition February 8 - 19. Artists and photographers from Lee County are encouraged to enter works. The exhibition will be held at the Jan Dempsey Community Arts Center March 5 - 29. For more information, including entry forms, visit [www.auburnalabama.org/arts](http://www.auburnalabama.org/arts) or contact the Jan Dempsey Community Arts Center at 501-2963.

## Last Day to Pay on Time Dates for January Water Bill Cycles

In an effort to help customers of the Water Works Board of the City of Auburn (AWWB) adjust to the new multi-cycle billing schedule, *Open Line* will include the *last day to pay on time* dates for each residential billing cycle. The billing cycle number is located on your water bill.

Cycle	Last Day to Pay Bill Received in January
1	January 19
2	January 27
3	February 4
4	February 9

Payments may be made by cash, check, money order, automatic bank draft, credit, or debit card. Payments are accepted at the following locations:

- **Online** at [www.auburnalabama.org/wro](http://www.auburnalabama.org/wro)
- **In-person** at the Bailey-Alexander Complex, 1501 West Samford Avenue
- **Payment drop boxes** located in front of Auburn City Hall on Tichenor Avenue and at the Bailey-Alexander Complex, 1501 West Samford Avenue

For more information, please visit [www.auburnalabama.org/wro](http://www.auburnalabama.org/wro) or contact the Water Works Board of the City of Auburn - Water Revenue Office at 501-3050 during regular business hours, Monday - Friday, 7:30 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.

## MEETING SCHEDULE

### FEBRUARY

- 1 Cemeteries Advisory Board**, 4 p.m., Dean Road Recreation Center
- 2 Parks & Recreation Advisory Board**, 5:15 p.m., Dean Road Recreation Center
- City Council**, 7 p.m., Council Chamber
- 3 Board of Zoning Adjustment**, 4:30 p.m., Council Chamber
- 5 Tree Commission**, 11:30 a.m., Chamber of Commerce Conference Room
- 9 Greenspace Advisory Board**, 11:30 a.m., City Meeting Room
- Historic Preservation Commission**, 4 p.m., Development Services Building
- Board of Education**, 6 p.m., AHS Multi-Media Room
- 11 Planning Commission**, 5 p.m., Council Chamber
- 16 City Council**, 7 p.m., Council Chamber
- 18 Water Works Board**, 4 p.m., Water Board Conference Room
- 23 Bicycle Committee**, 7 p.m., Development Services Building

**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).

# THE BIG EVENT 2010

## Saturday, February 6

On Saturday, February 6, Auburn University students will take part in THE BIG EVENT 2010, a one-day, community service project sponsored by Auburn University's Student Government Association (SGA). The project is a way for AU students to give back to the communities of Auburn, Opelika, and Lee County. For more information, visit [www.auBIGEVENT.com](http://www.auBIGEVENT.com).



## 2010 Citizen Survey Underway

# Citizen Survey



The 2010 Citizen Survey got underway in early-January. Citizens who received a survey in the mail are asked to take a few moments to complete

the survey and return it in the postage-paid envelope. Telephone follow-up surveys will be provided for citizens unable to complete their survey by mail. The survey plays an integral role in Auburn's interactive government. Results of the survey and feedback from citizens are used to formulate budget and project priorities.

Didn't receive a survey? We still want to hear from you. The City of Auburn welcomes all feedback by email, telephone, or mail. City Council and City department contact information is available online at [www.auburnalabama.org/about/contact.asp](http://www.auburnalabama.org/about/contact.asp) and in every issue of *Open Line*.

For more information, visit [www.auburnalabama.org/survey](http://www.auburnalabama.org/survey) or contact Auburn City Hall at 501-7260.

## Turn Off Irrigation Systems in Cold Weather



The City of Auburn requests citizens and businesses turn off their irrigation systems during cold weather. Please check your systems to make certain water is not leaking into the public right of way and creating potentially dangerous driving, walking, or riding conditions.

Thank you for your assistance in keeping our streets, sidewalks, and bicycle & multi-use paths safe for everyone to use and enjoy.

## Report Street Light Outages to Alabama Power

Citizens are reminded to report street light outages in the City of Auburn to Alabama Power's 24-hour customer service number at 1-800-245-2244. Please be prepared to provide the location of the street light, including the address or nearest house number.

## Get Social with the City of Auburn

### City utilizes social networking sites to keep citizens informed



Citizens looking to stay up-to-date on the latest news and announcements from the City of Auburn have two new ways to stay informed. Visit the City of Auburn page on Facebook at [www.facebook.com/CityofAuburnAL](http://www.facebook.com/CityofAuburnAL) or follow the City of Auburn on Twitter at [www.twitter.com/CityofAuburnAL](http://www.twitter.com/CityofAuburnAL) to stay current on the latest news and announcements from your Auburn city government.

"It is important for us to provide news and information in a way that reaches all of our citizens," said Mayor Bill Ham, Jr. "The City's website and e-Notifier email notification system continue to offer a wealth of knowledge for citizens. Using social networking tools such as Facebook and Twitter is just the latest in our continued efforts to reach out to our citizens and keep them informed of what is going on in their city."



In addition to following the City of Auburn on Facebook and Twitter, citizens can also subscribe to the City's free e-Notifier service to receive email notifications of new information available online, including press releases, meeting packets, *Open Line*, trash pick-up schedules, Library events, and more.

For more information, visit the City of Auburn online at [www.auburnalabama.org](http://www.auburnalabama.org) or contact Auburn City Hall at 501-7260.



**Love Your Heart Run**  
The Exceptional Outreach Organization



## Love Your Heart Run & Crank Your Heart Ride

### Saturday, February 6

Join the City of Auburn Parks and Recreation Department and the Exceptional Outreach Organization on Saturday, February 6 for the 21st Annual Love Your Heart Run, benefiting individuals with special needs and supporting Special Olympics of Lee County, Best Buddies of Auburn University, and other therapeutic programs. Participants may choose to run or walk a one-mile course or the Love Your Heart 10K. Cyclists can grab their bikes and join us for the 3rd Annual Crank Your Heart Ride, featuring a 3.5, 11, or 22 mile bike ride. All race and ride routes begin and end at Chewacla State Park. For more information, including registration and start times, visit [www.auburnalabama.org/parks/events.asp](http://www.auburnalabama.org/parks/events.asp) or contact the Dean Road Recreation Center at 501-2930.

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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@auburnlabama.org](mailto:openline@auburnlabama.org) or call 501-7255.

# up COMING EVENTS

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



**Now Showing ... Jan Dempsey Community Arts Center Exhibition** - 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 a.m. - 5 p.m. For more information, contact the Arts Center at 501-2963.

• **Winter Invitational 2010**, February 2 - March 2. Works in a variety of media by regional artists and craftpersons.

**Weekly in February...Auburn Public Library Story Times for Children** - Join the Auburn Public Library as they host special story times for children ages 6 months - 5 years and their caregivers. All story times are held at 10 a.m. For more information, visit [www.auburnlabama.org/library](http://www.auburnlabama.org/library) or contact Youth Services at 501-3196.

- **Tuesdays** - Baby Time (ages 6 - 18 months)
- **Wednesdays** - Preschool Story Time (ages 3 - 5 years)
- **Thursdays** - Toddler Time (ages 18 months - 3 years)



**February 2...Auburn History Club for Teens** - Youth in grades 6 - 12 are invited to join the Auburn History Club at the Auburn Public Library on February 2 at 4 p.m. for a discussion on Mark Twain and The Mighty Mississippi. For more information, visit [www.auburnlabama.org/library](http://www.auburnlabama.org/library) or contact Youth Services at 501-3196.



**February 3...Magic Tree House Club** - Youth in grades K - 5 are invited to join the Auburn Public Library for the Magic Tree House Club on February 3 at 3:30 p.m. This month's featured book title is *Hour of the Olympics*. For more information, visit [www.auburnlabama.org/library](http://www.auburnlabama.org/library) or contact Youth Services at 501-3196.

**February 3...Online and Walk-in Registration for Soccer** - Register for youth soccer online at [www.auburnlabama.org/soccer](http://www.auburnlabama.org/soccer) January 18 - February 3. Walk-in registration will be held on February 3 from 6 - 7 p.m. at the Auburn Soccer Complex. For more information, visit [www.auburnlabama.org/soccer](http://www.auburnlabama.org/soccer) or contact the Dean Road Recreation Center at 501-2930.



**February 4...Teen Café Game Night** - Come join the Auburn Public Library for Teen Café Game Night on February 4 at 6:30 p.m. Teens in grades 8 - 12 are invited to participate in a Wii bowling tournament. For more information, visit [www.auburnlabama.org/library](http://www.auburnlabama.org/library) or contact Youth Services at 501-3196.



**Register by February 5...X-Cell Field Trip to Cloudmont Ski Resort** - Hit the slopes with the City of Auburn Parks and Recreation Department on February 13 from 5 a.m. - 6 p.m. at Alabama's only alpine resort - Cloudmont Ski Resort. Youth ages 12 - 15 are invited to participate. The cost of the trip is \$50 and includes admission, lift tickets, beginner lessons, and all necessary equipment. Participants must provide a sack lunch. Registration ends February 5. For more information, contact Melissa Weldon at 501-2946.



**February 5...First Friday Night Tennis Mixer** - Join the Auburn Community Tennis Association (ACTA) for the First Friday Night Tennis Mixer on February 5 at 6:30 p.m. at the City of Auburn/Auburn University Yarbrough Tennis Center. Citizens ages 19 and up are encouraged to play. All levels of play are welcome. No partner is necessary. The event will be held rain or shine. Yarbrough Tennis Center non-member court fees apply. For more information, visit [www.auburnlabama.org/tennis](http://www.auburnlabama.org/tennis) or contact the Yarbrough Tennis Center at 501-2920.



**February 6...Online and Walk-in Registration for Spring Baseball, Softball, and T-ball** - Sign up for spring baseball, softball, and t-ball online at [www.auburnlabama.org/baseball](http://www.auburnlabama.org/baseball) January 18 - February 6. Walk-in registration will be held on February 6 from 9 a.m. - noon at the Dean Road Recreation Center. For more information, visit [www.auburnlabama.org/baseball](http://www.auburnlabama.org/baseball) or contact the Dean Road Recreation Center at 501-2930.

**February 9...Puppet Show** - Youth ages 3 - 11 are invited to join the Auburn Public Library for a puppet show entitled *A Sweetheart for Fox* on February 9 at 3:30 p.m. For more information, visit [www.auburnlabama.org/library](http://www.auburnlabama.org/library) or contact Youth Services at 501-3196.



**February 11...Auburn Public Library Children's Valentine's Party** - Youth ages 3 - 11 are invited to join the Auburn Public Library for the Annual Valentine's Party on February 11 at 6 p.m. Join us for Valentine-themed crafts, games, and stories. For more information, visit [www.auburnlabama.org/library](http://www.auburnlabama.org/library) or contact Youth Services at 501-3196.



**February 16... Auburn Public Library Book Group** - The Auburn Public Library Book Group will meet on February 16 at 6:30 p.m. For more information, including February's topic, visit [www.auburnlabama.org/library](http://www.auburnlabama.org/library) or contact the Reference Desk at 501-3195.



**February 18...American Girls Club** - Youth in grades K - 5 are invited to join the American Girls Club at the Auburn Public Library on February 18 at 3:30 p.m. This month's featured character is Addy. For more information, visit [www.auburnlabama.org/library](http://www.auburnlabama.org/library) or contact Youth Services at 501-3196.



**February 22 - 24...Jan Dempsey Community Arts Center Classes Closed** - The Jan Dempsey Community Arts Center will be closed to all classes February 22 - 24 for the Auburn Studio Project. Classes will resume on February 25. For more information, contact the Arts Center at 501-2963.

**February 23...Teen Café Books to Movies Club** - Teens in grades 8 - 12 are invited to join the Auburn Public Library for the Teen Café Books to Movies Club on February 23 at 4 p.m. Join us for a discussion of *The Adventures of Tom Sawyer*. For more information, visit [www.auburnlabama.org/library](http://www.auburnlabama.org/library) or contact Youth Services at 501-3196.



**February 24...Actor Jim Aycock at the Auburn Public Library** - Acclaimed actor Jim Aycock will present "Mark Twain," an engaging one-man portrayal of American's greatest author, at the Auburn Public Library on February 24 at 7 p.m. The event is free and open to the public. For more information, visit [www.auburnlabama.org/library](http://www.auburnlabama.org/library) or contact the Reference Desk at 501-3195.



**April 24...Auburn CityFest 2010** - Save the date for Auburn CityFest 2010, presented by the *Opelika-Auburn News*, on April 24 from 9 a.m. - 4 p.m. at Kiesel Park. Applications for fine arts, arts & crafts, food, and non-profit exhibitors are available online at [www.auburncityfest.com](http://www.auburncityfest.com). For more information, visit [www.auburncityfest.com](http://www.auburncityfest.com) or contact the Auburn CityFest Headquarters at 501-2930.