

Open Line

A Monthly Newsletter for City of Auburn Citizens

May 2012

City Council

Bill Ham, Jr., Mayor
501-7260
bham@auburnalabama.org

Arthur L. Dowdell, Sr., Ward 1
524-2074
bishopdowdellministries@yahoo.com

Sheila H. Eckman, Ward 2
821-9666
750-9666
sheilaeckman@bellsouth.net

Thomas Worden, Ward 3
740-1783
tworden@charter.net

Brent Beard, Ward 4
821-4302
brent@alabamacontractsales.com

Robin Kelley, Ward 5
887-0033
robinkelleylaw@gmail.com

Dick Phelan, Ward 6
887-2071
dickphelan@yahoo.com

Gene Dulaney, Ward 7
887-7908
466-3191
gdulaney@auburnbank.com

Bob Norman, Ward 8
319-2251
bobnorman67@gmail.com

14th Annual Mayor's Memorial Day Breakfast

Mayor Bill Ham, Jr. and the Auburn Veterans Committee cordially invite you to attend the 14th Annual Mayor's Memorial Day Breakfast on Monday, May 28th 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 are available at City Hall for \$25 each or \$250 for a table of 10. Proceeds from ticket sales go to the Auburn Veterans Memorial Fund.

Andrew "Andy" W. LaMar, Jr. will be the guest of honor and the recipient of the 2012 City of Auburn Distinguished Veteran Award. LaMar, a Birmingham native, chose the Alabama Polytechnic Institute in Auburn to begin his college career in 1941. In 1943 he entered the U. S. Army as a Private E-2. After completing the competitive exams, he was awarded a congressional appointment to the United States Military Academy at West Point. LaMar served with the 73rd Battalion in the U. S. 7th Infantry Division during the Korean War. After more than 25 years spent traveling the world, he returned to Auburn University to serve as Professor of Military Science for four years before retiring from the U. S. Army and making the Auburn area his permanent home.

This year marks the first Auburn Heroes Remembered Award that will be presented to the family of a local distinguished veteran who has passed away. This year's Auburn Heroes Remembered Award will be given in honor of Edward R. Schowalter. Colonel Schowalter began his military career at the Virginia Military Institute and upon graduation he was commissioned in the U. S. Army. He was awarded the Medal of Honor during the Korean War for actions taken while serving as commander of Company A, 31st Infantry Regiment, 7th Infantry Division. Upon completing his military service he made his home in Auburn, Alabama.

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 parking for the disabled.

Please join us on Monday, May 28th, as we honor the men and women who have courageously served our country. For more information, please visit www.auburnalabama.org/veterans or contact the City of Auburn Economic Development Department at 501-7270.



City Grants Trash Amnesty May 21-25

Just in time for spring cleaning, the Auburn City Council has approved the City's 8th Annual Trash Amnesty Week for the week of May 21-25, 2012. During Trash Amnesty Week, the fees normally assessed to residents for the collection of oversized yard debris and other bulky waste will be waived. Citizens are asked to pay close attention to the following guidelines when placing items out for collection:

Debris should be properly 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, 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. White goods tags are not required during Trash Amnesty Week.

The City will accept yard waste, appliances, and bulky items for collection. No household garbage, hazardous waste, or other unacceptable waste should be placed out for collection with debris. Debris should not be placed in the roadway, on or around storm drains, near utility lines, on utility boxes, or on vacant lots. Limbs and other debris should be no longer than 5 feet in length. To facilitate wood debris and metal recycling efforts, please separate all wood debris, including limbs and grass clippings, from metal items.

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

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

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Open Line is produced by
Office of the
City Manager
144 Tichenor Ave., Ste. 1
Auburn, AL 36830
phone: 334-501-7261
fax: 334-501-7299

web:
www.auburnalabama.org
email:
cduggan@auburnalabama.org



City of Auburn



Lee County Special Olympics Basketball Brings Home Gold Medal

Congratulations to the Lee County Special Olympics Basketball Team for winning the gold medal at the State Special Olympics Basketball Tournament in Montgomery in March. The team practiced weekly at the Frank Brown Recreation Center during the winter months in preparation for the state-wide tournament.

Lee County Special Olympics athletes compete in a variety of athletics programs each year, including basketball, bowling, golf, gymnastics, swimming, and track & field. Auburn Parks and Recreation is proud to sponsor these athletes in their quest to represent the citizens of Lee County in the spirit and integrity of the national Special Olympics program. Athletes will compete at the state-wide summer games in Troy, AL the weekend of May 18 - 20. For more information on Special Olympics, please contact Alison Hall or Dana Stewart, Lee County Special Olympics Co-Directors, at 501-2930.

Top Row, L-R: Dana Stewart, Co-Director, Dominique Macon, Gideon Weigel, Alison Hall, Co-Director

Second Row, L-R: Richard Haynes, Eijah Dunn, Ben Crowell, Donald Lee

Third Row, L-R: Cynthia Caldwell-Jackson, Volunteer, Elizabeth Stewart, Coach, Kasey King, Head Coach, Paul Walker, Volunteer

Bottom Row, L-R: Wiley Crowell, Ann Finlen, Sherrell Caldwell, Gwen Janigan, Coach



Auburn City Pools

Splash into summer earlier than ever with Auburn City Pools! Purchase your 2012 Splash Pass weekdays at the Dean Road Recreation Center from 8 a.m. - 5 p.m. Splash Passes are good for unlimited admission to Auburn City Pools all summer, beginning with Early Bird Recreation Swim May 7. Passes are \$50 for individuals and \$125 for families. Family passes are good for immediate family members, including parents or guardians and children under the age of 19, residing in the same household only.

Swim lesson registration begins Monday, April 2. Sign up early to guarantee your spot! Early Bird Swimming Lessons begin Tuesday, May 1. For more information, contact Auburn Parks and Recreation at 501-2930.

May Concert Series at Town Creek Park

One of Auburn's newest spring traditions is back! Join Auburn Parks and Recreation for the May Concert Series at Town Creek Park every Thursday in May from 6 - 7:30 p.m. This FREE, outdoor concert series includes performances by local and regional acts, including:

May 3 - Crossroads | May 10 - Martha's Trouble

May 17 - Auburn Knights Orchestra

May 24 - Pangea | May 31 - Dave Potts

Bring your family and friends and join us for a relaxing evening of musical entertainment. Don't forget your blankets, chairs, and picnic basket and as always, dogs are welcome! For more information, please visit www.auburnalabama.org/parks or contact Auburn Parks and Recreation at 501-2930.

Board Vacancies

- One vacancy on the **Board of Education** will be filled at the May 1, 2012 City Council meeting.
- Three vacancies on the **Planning Commission** will be announced at the June 19, 2012 meeting and will be filled at the July 17, 2012 City Council meeting.
- Two vacancies on the **Greenspace Advisory Board** will be announced at the June 19, 2012 meeting and will be filled at the July 17, 2012 City Council meeting.
- Citizens interested in serving are encouraged to contact one of their City Council members or notify the City Manager's Office.



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

MEETING SCHEDULE

MAY

- 1 Parks & Recreation Advisory Board**, 5:15 p.m., Dean Road Recreation Center, 307 South Dean Road
City Council, 7 p.m., Council Chamber, 141 North Ross Street
- 2 Board of Zoning Adjustment**, 4:30 p.m., Council Chamber, 141 North Ross Street
- 4 Tree Commission**, 11:30 a.m., Chamber of Commerce Conference Room, 714 East Glenn Avenue
- 7 Cemeteries Advisory Board**, 4:00 p.m., Dean Road Recreation Center, 307 South Dean Road
- 8 Greenspace Advisory Board**, Noon, Dean Road Recreation Center, 307 South Dean Road
Historic Preservation Commission, 4 p.m., Development Services Building, 171 North Ross Street
Board of Education, 6 p.m., AHS Multi-Media Room, 405 South Dean Road
- 10 Planning Commission**, 5 p.m., Council Chamber, 141 North Ross Street
- 15 City Council**, 7 p.m., Council Chamber, 141 North Ross Street
- 17 Water Works Board**, 4 p.m., Water Board Conference Room, 1501 West Samford Avenue
- 22 Library Board**, 2 p.m., Library Board Room, 172 East Thach Avenue
- 29 Bicycle Committee**, 7 p.m., Development Services Building, 171 North Ross Street

Meeting times and places are subject to change.

For more information, including a map of City meeting locations, please visit www.auburnalabama.org/boards.

Parking Fees

In March, the Auburn City Council approved changes to the City's parking regulations, designed to provide for improved parking administration and enforcement in the downtown area. Changes include increasing the fine for parking tickets from \$5.00 to \$10.00, provisions for towing vehicles with excessive unpaid parking fines, and allowing the City Council to authorize a parking ticket amnesty period from time to time to help resolve outstanding parking fine issues. The new parking ordinance also provides for new parking meter technology including the use of credit cards and for installation of multi-space parking meter stations in lieu of single space mechanical meters.

The City's parking ordinance is designed in part to enhance the availability of downtown parking to assist downtown businesses and visitors alike. For example, downtown parking regulations have long restricted some metered spaces to two-hour parking during business hours to encourage turnover. Because downtown parking is vital to downtown businesses and restaurants, the Auburn Chamber of Commerce received a copy of the ordinance before its passage so that the business community would have a chance to comment.

If you're parking downtown, please remember that there's more public parking than just what you see on-street on College Street, Magnolia Avenue and Wright Street. Behind Toomer's Corner is a public parking area accessible from both Gay Street and Tichenor Avenue. In total, you can find 372 metered spaces downtown, with additional parking available for lease. Downtown metered parking is free after 5 PM, on weekends, between Auburn University semesters and on official holidays. Additional parking spaces become available for public use after business hours and on weekends in the City parking lot next to the AuburnBank drive through on Gay Street.

Increasing downtown parking has been a long-term effort. In 2009, a long-term plan for downtown parking improvements was presented to the City Council. Among the improvements completed so far are renovation of the downtown parking deck including improved lighting and security cameras, and improvements to the City Hall parking lot. In January, Auburn citizens voted to use money from the five-mill fund for further downtown improvements. These proposed parking improvements were developed in response to citizen input including the Annual Citizen Survey, a scientific poll focusing on the priorities and approval levels of Auburn residents. In the most recent poll, downtown parking was tied with road resurfacing as a top transportation infrastructure priority for Auburn citizens.

As a result of the five-mill referendum, other parking improvements are in the planning stages including:

- Funding for further planned improvements, increasing the number of parking spaces downtown by over ten percent and improving metered parking surrounding the downtown parking deck.
- Demolition of the AuburnBank drive-thru and consolidation of all surface parking on Gay Street along with new landscaping.
- Repaving and landscaping the west parking lot located behind Toomer's Drugs and all of its access drives.
- Enhancing pedestrian access to and from the downtown parking deck and surface lots, including enhanced lighting, signage and security features.

The full-details of the new parking ordinance, passed at the March 3, 2012 Council Meeting are available online at <http://www.auburnalabama.org/agenda>. Details of the improvements approved in the Special Five Mill Referendum are available at <http://www.auburnalabama.org/5mill>.



20th Annual Fishing Rodeo

Auburn Parks and Recreation and Evans Realty are reeling in some fun at the 20th Annual Fishing Rodeo, sponsored by Evans Realty, on Saturday, May 5 from 8 - 11 a.m. at the lake at Auburn Technology Park South. Bring your lucky fishing pole and we will supply the bait. Over \$300 worth of door prizes will be given out to lucky participants and prizes will be awarded to the Biggest Fish and Smallest Fish caught. The first 150 children will receive an insulated cooler, courtesy of Evans Realty! This event is a great chance to bring kids and their parents together with America's favorite pastime...FISHING! So don't miss out on your chance to reel in the biggest catfish of the year! Please note, there is a limit of five fish per child and parents must accompany their children at all times. Registration is \$5, payable the day of the event. For more information, please visit www.auburnalabama.org/parks or contact Auburn Parks and Recreation at 501-2930.



Memorial Day Holiday Schedule

City Hall will be closed on Monday, May 28 in observance of Memorial Day. Public Safety services, including Police, Fire, and Communications, will remain on their regular schedules. The collection of garbage, trash, and recycling the week of May 28-June 1 will change as follows:

City Hall Closed: Monday, May 28

Normal Pick-up Day Holiday Trash Collection

Monday	Tuesday, May 29
Tuesday	Wednesday, May 30
Wednesday	Thursday, May 31
Thursday	Friday, June 1

Collection carts and recycled materials must be placed at the curb by 6 a.m. on your holiday pick-up collection day. All carts and collection bins must be removed from the curb by 6 a.m. the following day. For more information, please contact the City of Auburn or visit our website at www.auburnalabama.org/es/holiday.asp.

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
501-7220
webfinance@auburnalabama.org

Human Resources Department
Steven A. Reeves, Director
501-7240
sreeves@auburnalabama.org

Library
Margie B. Huffman, Director
501-3190
mhuffman@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.
Laura A. Koon, Director
501-3060
lkoon@auburnalabama.org

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Auburn City Schools
Terry Jenkins, Superintendent
887-2100
tjenkins@auburnschools.org

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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 501-7255.

up COMING EVENTS

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

Auburn Public Library

For more information, contact Auburn Public Library's Youth Services at 501-3196.



Baby Lapsit - Tuesdays at 9:30 a.m. for ages birth – 12 months and their caregivers.

Baby's First Steps Storytime - Tuesdays at 10:30 a.m. for ages 12 - 24 months and their caregivers.

Toddler Time - Wednesdays at 10:00 a.m. for ages 18 months - 3 years and their caregivers.



Preschool Time - Thursdays at 10:00 a.m. for preschoolers ages 3 - 5 years and their caregivers.

Lego Play All Day - Saturday, May 5 all day for ages 4 - 12.

Magic Tree House - Monday, May 7 at 3:30 p.m. for students in grades K - 5.

Puppet Show - Tuesday, May 8 at 3:30 p.m. for ages 3 - 11.

American Girls Club - Thursday, May 17 at 3:30 p.m. for students in grades K - 5.



Wii Play All Day - Saturday, May 19 all day for ages 13 - 17.



Derby Day! - Saturday, May 5, from 12:00 - 4:00p.m. Join us in celebration of the Kentucky Derby! We'll be showing a double feature of two of our favorite horse racing movies: Secretariat, followed by Seabiscuit. All ages welcome.

Parks and Recreation

For more information, contact Auburn Parks and Recreation at 501-2930.

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.

14th Annual Juried Art Exhibition Open, May 14 - June 27. Open to artists and craftpersons residing or employed in Lee County.

April 30...Registration for Summer Camps and Programs - Register for summer camps and programs beginning April 30 at 8 a.m. at the Dean Road Recreation Center. For a complete listing of camps, programs, and summer events, be sure to pick up a copy of the Parks and Recreation Summer Brochure, available April 16.

Register by April 30...Tiger Trekkers Hiking Club - Teens 16 and older are invited to join us for the Tiger Trekkers Hiking Club trip to the Cherokee Ridge Alpine Trail on May 5 from 9 a.m. - 2 p.m. The hike is three miles long and moderate in difficulty. Participants should bring a day pack with snacks and water and wear sturdy hiking boots. The cost of the trip is \$5, payable in cash on the day of the trip. Pre-registration is required by April 30.



May 4...First Friday Night Tennis Mixer - Join the Auburn Community Tennis Association (ACTA) for the First Friday Night Tennis Mixer on May 4 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.

May 11 - 13, and 16 - 20...AACT Spring Production - Join the Auburn Area Community Theatre (AACT) for their spring production, "On Golden Pond" May 11, 12, & 16 - 19 at 7 p.m. and May 13 & 20 at 2 p.m. at the Jan Dempsey Community Arts Center. Tickets are \$10 for adults and \$8 for children, students, and seniors. For reservations, please call 332-2620.



May 16...Auburn Thunder Soccer Tryouts Parent Meeting - Tryouts for the 2012 - 2013 Auburn Thunder soccer will be held June 4 - 6 from 6 - 8 p.m. at the Auburn Soccer Complex on Wire Rd. Auburn Thunder is the competitive, travel soccer club sponsored by the Auburn Soccer Association for youth ages 8 - 19. There will be an informational meeting for parents of youth interested in participating on Wednesday, May 16 at 5:30 p.m. at the Auburn Soccer Complex. For more information, visit www.auburnalabama.org/soccer.



Register by May 18...Teen Scene Field Trip - Youth ages 12 - 15 are invited to join Auburn Parks and Recreation for a day of kayaking on the Coosa River on Saturday, May 26 from 9 a.m. - 4 p.m. The cost of the trip is \$30, payable in cash on the day of the trip. Participants should provide their own lunch in a soft-sided, waterproof container and wear appropriate clothing, sunscreen, and footwear that will stay on during a swim. River equipment will be provided. Pre-registration is required by May 18.

Friday, June 15...SummerNight 2012 - Join the City of Auburn, Auburn Arts Association, and Downtown Auburn Merchants for SummerNight 2012 on June 15 from 6 - 9:30 p.m. in downtown Auburn. This FREE community event features artwork and music from area artists on display throughout downtown. Area artists, downtown businesses, and restaurants are encouraged to participate. Applications are available online at www.auburnalabama.org/arts and are due by June 11. In case of rain, join us Saturday, June 16 from 6 - 9:30 p.m.

