

# Open Line

## A Monthly Newsletter for City of Auburn Citizens

January 2016

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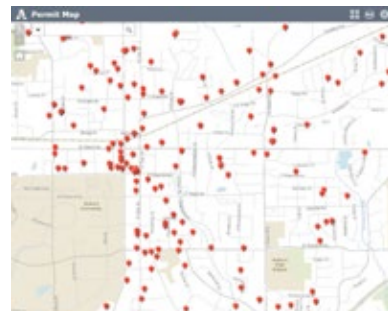


City of Auburn



### City Launches New Online App To Show Construction Permits

The City of Auburn has launched an online app allowing Auburn residents to view all outstanding construction permits in the city limits. This new tool is provided in response to requests by citizens for more information to be available on growth and development in Auburn. Visitors to the application will find a map of Auburn with red pins showing the location of active permits. Each red pin is clickable, revealing the basic details of the project.



Permits are required for construction projects in all types of uses, including commercial, industrial and residential. The permit map is refreshed daily to show all active permits throughout the City. The map is searchable by address, street, parcel, subdivision and structure name, and is designed to be scalable for all screen sizes, desktop and mobile. The map also includes the ability to overlay aerial photography through a control in the right hand corner of the screen.

The City of Auburn permit app is designed by the City's IT Department - GIS Division. To use the application, please use your desktop, laptop or mobile device to visit the City's website at [www.auburnalabama.org/maps](http://www.auburnalabama.org/maps) and click "Interactive Maps" and then click "Permit Map." You can access the map directly by going to [webgis.auburnalabama.org/permitmap/](http://webgis.auburnalabama.org/permitmap/).

### Corner Construction Project Recognized with State & National Awards

The Corner Construction project, completed in mid-August of this year, has been recognized by the American Society of Landscape Architects (ASLA) - Alabama Chapter for a State Merit Award in the 2015 ASLA Design Awards Program. This award is a result of the hard work and dedication of the City's Corner Construction project team.

The Corner Construction project was also a 2015 Obelisk Award winner for the Sitework/Landscape/Hardscape category of the Associated Builders and Contractors (ABC) Alabama Excellence in Construction Awards. Bailey-Harris Construction (BHCC) was presented the award at the 26th Annual Excellence in Construction awards ceremony in Birmingham in October.

According to the award write-up "BHCC was tasked with demolition & reconstruction of Toomer's Corner in the heart of the City of Auburn. To match improvements on the University's corner, BHCC renovated the three remaining corners by installing a new subgrade, pedestrian & traffic rated pavers including the beloved Tiger Paw in the center of the intersection. New brick seat



*continued on page 2*

## Corner Construction

*continued from page 1*

walls, LED lighting, new traffic poles and expanded sidewalks were installed all while maintaining safe access to the downtown shops, restaurants, bars & residences."

### About the Project

The Corner Construction project was a once in a lifetime renovation and revitalization of Auburn's most iconic location. The City of Auburn worked closely with Auburn University to ensure that the campus corner, the intersection and the city corners complemented one another. The Corner Construction project was designed by City of Auburn staff to enhance a sense of place at the heart of downtown Auburn, where campus and city meet and where both gather together to celebrate. In that spirit, the intersection was raised to the level of the sidewalk to create a plaza during downtown events. The corners were expanded with new seating, tree wells, and new lighting. The project also provided an opportunity to maintain, improve or replace decades old infrastructure under the concrete, and make permanent the tiger paw that the Auburn University Student Government Association had repainted annually for years.

### About ASLA

The ASLA is an organization that promotes the landscape architecture profession and advances the practice through advocacy, education, communication and fellowship.

### About Associated Builders and Contractors

ABC is a national construction industry trade association representing nearly 21,000 chapter members. Founded on the merit shop philosophy, ABC and its 70 chapters help members develop people, win work and deliver that work safely, ethically, profitably and for the betterment of the communities in which ABC and its members work.



*The LaMar family presents \$11,500 raised at the final Kevin Bell Memorial Blast and Cast fundraiser, to the Auburn Veterans Committee for the Veterans Scholarship fund.*

## MasterBrand Cabinets Announces Expansion

MasterBrand Cabinets (MBCI) announced recently that it will expand its operations and hire more associates at its Auburn manufacturing facility, thanks to business growth.

"I'm excited about our ability to make further economic investments in Auburn that will allow us to continue providing high levels of quality and reliable service to our regional customers," said Dave Randich, president, MasterBrand Cabinets. "This expansion reflects our commitment to support local jobs and represents the quality of the workforce who are critical to our success."

MBCI Auburn manufactures semi-custom kitchen and bath cabinetry. It currently employs approximately 380 hourly and salaried associates. With the planned expansion, MBCI will add a third shift and hire more than 150 associates in the coming months.

"I am honored MasterBrand Cabinets has decided to expand its operation in Auburn," Governor Robert Bentley said. "The greatest compliment any company can provide communities is a decision to expand an existing operation. MasterBrand's expansion is the result of a strong business climate in Lee County and a dedicated work force. Soon, new skilled jobs will be created for the people in Auburn and the surrounding areas."

Auburn Mayor Bill Ham, Jr. said of the expansion: "We're proud that MasterBrand continues to call Auburn home for this manufacturing facility, and proud of their success. A successful company providing new jobs in Auburn. You can't ask for a better announcement to make."

### About MasterBrand Cabinets, Inc.

"Headquartered in Jasper, Ind., MasterBrand Cabinets, Inc. is the largest cabinet manufacturer in North America. Its powerful portfolio of brands -- ranging from standard to custom -- offers quality cabinetry solutions for kitchen, bath and other areas of the home. MBCI is an operating company of the consumer product company, Fortune Brands Home & Security, Inc. (NYSE: FBHS). For more information, visit [www.masterbrand.com](http://www.masterbrand.com)."

## Board Vacancies

One vacancy for the **Water Works Board** will be announced at the November 17, 2015 meeting and will be filled at the December 15, 2015 City Council Meeting.



Two vacancies for the **Parks & Recreation Advisory Board** were announced at the November 17, 2015 meeting and will be filled at the December 15, 2015 City Council Meeting.

Two vacancies for the **Board of Zoning Adjustment** will be announced at the December 1, 2015 meeting and will be filled at the January 5, 2016 City Council Meeting.

Two vacancies for the **Cemeteries Advisory Board** will be announced at the December 15, 2015 meeting and will be filled at the January 19, 2016 City Council Meeting.

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

## Business License Renewals

Any business providing services or selling goods within the city limits of Auburn is required to have a City of Auburn business license. City business licenses for 2015 expire on December 31 and are required by City ordinance to be renewed no later than Tuesday, February 16, 2016 to avoid a late fee. All current business license holders will be receiving renewal packets in the mail in the coming weeks. Any business that does not receive its renewal packet by December 31 should contact the Revenue Office at 501-7239 to verify its mailing address and request another packet. All questions regarding business licenses may be directed to this number as well.

The City Revenue Office is located in City Hall at 144 Tichenor Avenue. Business hours are Monday-Friday, 8:00 a.m.-5:00 p.m. except City holidays. For more information, please contact the Revenue Office at 501-7239.

## MEETING SCHEDULE JANUARY

- 4 Cemeteries Advisory Board**, 4 p.m., Harris Center, 425 Perry Street
- 5 Parks & Recreation Advisory Board**, 11:45 a.m., Harris Center, 425 Perry Street
- City Council**, 7 p.m., Council Chamber, 141 North Ross Street
- Committee of the Whole**, 6:55 p.m., Council Chamber, 141 North Ross Street
- 6 Board of Zoning Adjustment**, 4:30 p.m., Council Chamber, 141 North Ross Street
- 8 Tree Commission**, 11:30 a.m., Chamber of Commerce Conference Room, 714 E. Glenn Avenue
- 12 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
- 14 Planning Commission**, 5 p.m., Council Chamber, 141 North Ross Street
- 19 Library Board**, 2 p.m., Library Conference Room, 749 East Thach Avenue
- 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
- 21 Water Works Board**, 4 p.m., Water Board Conference Room, 1501 West Samford Avenue
- 26 Bike Committee**, 7 p.m., DSB Conference Room, 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](http://www.auburnalabama.org/boards).**

## 2016 Holiday Garbage, Trash, and Recycling Schedule

Citizens are encouraged to keep this schedule to use as a reference throughout the year.

### New Year's Day Holiday

Monday, December 28	No change
Tuesday, December 29	No change
Wednesday, December 30	No change
Thursday, December 31	No change
Friday, January 1	Holiday

### Martin Luther King Jr. Holiday

Monday, January 18	Holiday
Tuesday, January 19	Monday's route
Wednesday, January 20	Tuesday's route
Thursday, January 21	Wednesday's route
Friday, January 22	Thursday's route

### 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

### Independence Day Holiday

Monday, July 4	Holiday
Tuesday, July 5	Monday's route
Wednesday, July 6	Tuesday's route
Thursday, July 7	Wednesday's route
Friday, July 8	Thursday's route

### Labor Day Holiday

Monday, September 5	Holiday
Tuesday, September 6	Monday's route
Wednesday, September 7	Tuesday's route
Thursday, September 8	Wednesday's route
Friday, September 9	Thursday's route

### Veterans Day

Monday, November 9	No change
Tuesday, November 10	No change
Wednesday, November 11	No change
Thursday, November 12	No change
Friday, November 11	Holiday

### Thanksgiving Holiday

Monday, November 21	No change
Tuesday, November 22	No change
Wednesday, November 23	Wednesday's and Thursday's route
Thursday, November 24	Holiday
Friday, November 25	Holiday

### Christmas Holiday (Sunday)

Monday, December 26	Holiday
Tuesday, December 27	Monday's route
Wednesday, December 28	Tuesday's route
Thursday, December 29	Wednesday's route
Friday, December 30	Thursday's route

### January 2017 New Year's Day (Sunday)

Monday, January 2	Holiday
Tuesday, January 3	Monday's route
Wednesday, January 4	Tuesday's route
Thursday, January 5	Wednesday's route
Friday, January 6	Thursday's route



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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](mailto:openline@auburnalabama.org) or call 501-7266.

# up COMING 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.

**Baby Time** – Tuesdays, at 10:00 a.m. and 1:00 p.m., for ages birth through 24 months.

**Toddler Time** – Wednesdays, 10:00 a.m. and 1:00 p.m., for ages 18 months through 26 months.

**Preschool Time** – Thursdays, 10:00 a.m. and 1:00 p.m., for ages 3 through 5.

**Fractured Fairy Tales** - Wednesday, January 6, 3:30 p.m. to 4:00 p.m., featuring *Goldilocks and the Three Dinosaurs* by Mo Willems.

**Family Storytime** – Sunday, January 24, 4:00 p.m. to 4:30 p.m.

### Book Groups

- **Forever YA Book Club** - Tuesday, January 19 at 7:00 p.m. at the Auburn Public Library, featuring *Under a Painted Sky* by Stacey Lee.
- **Show & Tell Book Group** - Monday, January 25 at 4:00 p.m. (Afternoon Group) and 6:30 p.m. (Evening Group) at the Auburn Public Library. Everyone is free to read any book(s) – fiction or non-fiction – and present it to the group.
- **Read & Reflect Book Group** – Tuesday, January 26 at 10:00 a.m. at the Harris Senior Center, featuring *The Storied Life of A. J. Fikry* by Gabrielle Charbonnet.

### Genealogy 101

- **Getting Started in Genealogy** – Tuesday, January 12 at 2:00 p.m.
- **Online Resources for Genealogical Research** – Tuesday, January 19 at 2:00 p.m.
- **Family Photo Restoration** - Thursday, January 21 at 3:00 p.m.

## 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 [www.auburnalabama.org/parks](http://www.auburnalabama.org/parks).

**Facility Closings during the month of January:** Auburn Parks and Recreation facilities will be closed on Friday, January 1 and reopen for normal business hours on Monday, January 4 in observance of New Year's Day. All Parks and Recreation facilities will also be closed on Monday, January 18 and reopen for normal business hours on Tuesday, January 19 in observance of Martin Luther King Jr Day. For more information, please visit us online at [www.auburnalabama.org](http://www.auburnalabama.org) or call (334) 501 – 2930.

### Save the date: January!

- **Auburn Parks and Recreation's Spring Brochure** will be available during the month of January. Check out all of our springtime programs and be ready for Spring Quarter registration when it begins in February!
- **The 3rd Annual Empty Bowls** tickets go on sale beginning January 11 and can be purchased at either Dean Road Ceramics Studio or the Denson Drive Recreation Center in Opelika. For more information, please contact Art Education Specialist Cari Checkler at (334) 501 – 2944.

**Play Ball! Online registration for our youth spring sports opens on Monday, January 11 and closes on Saturday, January 30.** Coaching applications are due on Monday, January 4.

- **Youth Soccer:** Registration opens online on January 11 and closes on January 30. A one-day walk-in registration will be held on Wednesday, January 27 from 6 – 6:30 p.m. at the Auburn Soccer Complex. For more information, please call (334) 501 – 2972 or visit [www.auburnalabama.org/athletics](http://www.auburnalabama.org/athletics).
- **Youth Baseball/Softball/T-ball:** Registration opens online on January 11 and closes on January 30. A one-day walk-in registration will be held on Saturday, January 30 from 10 a.m. – noon at Dead Road Recreation Center. For more information, please call (334) 501 – 2950 or visit [www.auburnalabama.org/athletics](http://www.auburnalabama.org/athletics).
- **Adult Soccer:** Registration opens on Tuesday, January 12 at the Harris Center. Team registration will close on Friday, February 5. For more information, please call (334) 501 – 2930 or visit [www.auburnalabama.org/athletics](http://www.auburnalabama.org/athletics).

**Scale Back Alabama** – Auburn Parks and Recreation is proud to host Scale Back Alabama (SBA) for the third year! Weigh-ins for the 2016 Scale Back Alabama program will begin on Monday, January 25 and end on Sunday, January 31. Participants signed up as part of a Scale Back Alabama Team may visit designated Parks and Recreation facilities for their official team weigh-in. A complete schedule of weigh-in days and times is available online at [www.auburnalabama.org/parks](http://www.auburnalabama.org/parks). Citizens are encouraged to participate in this FREE program to help adopt healthier habits for 2016. For more information about the many free fitness options for SBA participants and a schedule of events, please visit us online at [www.auburnalabama.org/parks](http://www.auburnalabama.org/parks) or call (334) 501 – 2950.

**4th Annual Polar Plunge** – Saturday, January 30 at 9 a.m., brave the cold for the 4th Annual Polar Plunge in support of Lee County Special Olympics! Individual and group costumes are encouraged! This event is presented by Auburn Parks and Recreation and Lee County Special Olympics and all proceeds will benefit Lee County Special Olympics. To register, please visit [www.auburnalabama.org/specialolympics](http://www.auburnalabama.org/specialolympics). For more information, please call (334) 501 – 2930.

**Coming Soon...Jan Dempsey Community Arts Center Exhibitions** – Mark your calendar for the following Jan Dempsey Community Arts Center Exhibitions. Exhibitions are free and open to the public Monday - Friday from 8 a.m. - 5 p.m. For more information, visit [www.auburnalabama.org/arts](http://www.auburnalabama.org/arts) or contact the Arts Center at 501-2963.

- **Photo Invitational 2016, Jan. 1 – 29.** An exhibition of photographs by a group of area photographers (Gallery II).
- **Winter Invitational: Paint, Jan. 11 – Feb. 26.** Works in a variety of personal styles and art materials utilizing specific colors of paint.

**AACT Teen Show Auditions** – AACT will begin teen auditions for the musical presentation of Peter Pan on Monday, January 4 and Tuesday, January 5 from 2 - 6 p.m. Callbacks will be Thursday, January 7. Auditions are open to children and teens ages 12 – 18. For more information, please visit [www.auburnact.org](http://www.auburnact.org) or contact Amber Hanel at (318) 527 – 9922 or [amberhanel@yahoo.com](mailto:amberhanel@yahoo.com).