

# Open Line

A Monthly Newsletter for City of Auburn Citizens

January 2004

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## Open Line

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City of Auburn



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## David Watkins, New City Manager

David F. Watkins began his duties as Auburn City Manager officially on January 1. He has been in Auburn since December 15 as the Acting City Manager while former City Manager Doug Watson took leave for the last two weeks of his 21-year term of office.

"We are very pleased to have David in Auburn and we feel confident that he will continue the excellent leadership that we have had in the City Manager's office for the past many years," said Mayor Bill Ham. "The City Council was unanimous in our selection of David and feel that he is an ideal match for Auburn."

Mr. Watkins, a graduate of Auburn University, received his Master of Public Administration degree from Kansas University. He has been a city manager in Kansas for the past 23 years, including nineteen years in Lenexa. Lenexa is a fast growing suburb of Kansas City. Mayor Ham commented, "We were especially impressed with the approach that David took in dealing with the growth in Lenexa. We feel that experience will be valuable to Auburn."

City Manager Watkins is a native of Birmingham where he graduated from Berry High School. He and his wife Kay are the parents of two daughters, Laura, a student at Kansas University, and Leslie, a high school student. He is a staunch Auburn sports fan who is looking forward to being closer to his beloved Tigers.

"I am excited about the opportunity to return to Auburn in this important role," Mr. Watkins said. "For years, Kay and I have wanted to return to Alabama and we are very excited about the professional and personal opportunities that Auburn offers." He added, "I look forward to working with the outstanding Auburn staff and with the Auburn community. These are exciting times in Auburn and I am very pleased to be part of them."

If you would like to contact City Manager Watkins, please feel free to call him at 501-7261 or e-mail him at [dwatkins@auburnalabama.org](mailto:dwatkins@auburnalabama.org).



Fireplace season is here. Your wood burning fireplace should be inspected and cleaned by a professional chimney sweep to prevent flue fires. Burning only hardwood in your wood burning fireplace lessens the build-up of creosote in the flue which can lead to chimney fires.

# Phase II Storm Water Compliance Workshop



On November 14, 2003, the Public Works Department hosted a storm water compliance workshop. The purpose of the workshop was to educate and inform engineers, developers, and contractors of the permitting requirements under the Phase II Storm Water Regulations and to provide best management practice (BMP) installation guidelines.

Representatives from the Alabama Department of Environmental Management (ADEM) gave a presentation outlining the requirements of Phase II Storm Water Regulations. Mr. Earl Norton, representing the Alabama Soil and Water Conservation Committee, introduced the new "Alabama Handbook for Erosion Control, Sediment Control and Storm Water Management on Construction Sites and Urban Areas." The handbook has been recognized by ADEM as the current guide for all construction in the State of Alabama. Mr. Clay Davies of Davies Erosion Control Services Inc. and Rosanna Saxton of Erosion Control & Environmental Supply Inc. provided exhibits of installation practices.

More than 70 local engineers, developers, and contractors attended.



# Martin Luther King Holiday Schedule

City Hall will be closed on Martin Luther King Day, Monday, January 19<sup>th</sup>. Public Safety services will be on normal schedule. The collection of garbage, trash, and recycling will be changed for that week. Monday's route will be collected on Tuesday. Tuesday's route will be picked up on Wednesday. Wednesday's route will be picked up on Thursday. Thursday's route will be collected on Friday.

# Garbage Rates to Increase

Garbage service rates will increase effective January 1. The rate for backyard residential service will increase to \$24.50 a month and the rate for curbside service will increase to \$17.00 per month. Commercial garbage rates and special trash collection rates are also increasing. For more details, please contact the Environmental Service Department at 501-3080.



## Meeting Schedule

**Cemetery Advisory Board** - January 5, 4:00 PM, Dean Road Recreation Center.

**Park & Recreation Advisory Board** - January 6, 5:30 PM, Dean Road Recreation Center.

**City Council** - January 6, 7:30 PM, Council Chamber.

**Tree Commission** - January 7, 4:00 PM, City Hall Annex.

**Board of Zoning Adjustment** - January 7, 4:30 PM, Council Chamber.

**Planning Commission** - January 8, 5:00 PM, Council Chamber.

**Water Works Board** - January 12, 4:00 PM, Water and Sewer Conference Room, 214 North Donahue Drive.

**Greenspace Advisory Board** - January 13, 11:30 AM, City Hall Annex.

**Board of Education** - January 13, 6:00 PM, AHS Multi-Media Room.

**City Council** - January 20, 7:30 PM, Council Chamber.

**Library Board** - January 22, 1:15 PM, Library Board Room.

**Cemetery Advisory Board** - February 2, 4:00 PM, Dean Road Recreation Center.

**Park & Recreation Advisory Board** - February 3, 5:30 PM, Dean Road Recreation Center.

**City Council** - February 3, 7:30 PM, Council Chamber.

**Tree Commission** - February 4, 4:00 PM, City Hall Annex.

**Board of Zoning Adjustment** - February 4, 4:30 PM, Council Chamber.

-Meeting times and places are subject to change-

# Spring 2004 Soccer

**Youth Soccer Registration** - First time youth players must bring a birth certificate for registration.

Sat., Feb. 7, 10 a.m.-1 p.m.  
Walk-In Registration  
NEW Auburn Soccer Complex - Wire Road

Wed., Feb. 11, 5:30-6:30 p.m.  
Walk-In Registration  
Dean Road Recreation Center

## Adult Soccer Registration -

Feb. 2 - Feb. 27  
Mon.-Fri., 8 a.m.-5 p.m.



All youth and adult soccer registration forms will be available in the lobby of the Dean Road Recreation Center on Monday, Jan. 26. For more information, please contact Parks & Recreation at 887-4930.

# up COMING EVENTS



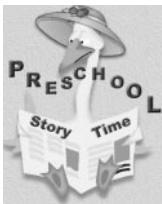
**The Auburn University Department of Athletics** and the Auburn Public Library want you to read your way into Auburn Athletics events this year by taking part in the "Read with the Tigers Program."

Just complete a "Read with the Tigers" bookmark available from the Auburn Public Library from January 9 - February 18, and support the AU Men's Basketball team! For more information call 501-3196 or go to [http://www.auburnalabama.org/library/new\\_page\\_3.htm](http://www.auburnalabama.org/library/new_page_3.htm)



**First Fridays for Homeschoolers** will be held January 9 from 10:00 - 11:00 a.m. at the Auburn Public Library. January's theme is "Snowflakes." Call 501-3196 for more information.

**Toddler Time** is a reading program presented by the Auburn Public Library for children ages 18 months to 3 years and their caregivers. The program is offered from 10:00 a.m. - 10:30 p.m. Upcoming themes are as follows: 1/8 - Winter; 1/15 - Polar Bears; 1/22 - Happy Times; 1/29 - Mice; 2/5 - Airplanes; 2/12 - Valentines.



**Preschool Storytime** is a reading program presented by the Auburn Public Library for children ages 3 to 5 years. It is offered Tuesday afternoons from 1:30 p.m. - 2:00 p.m. and Wednesday mornings from 10:00 a.m. - 10:30 a.m. Upcoming themes are as follows: 1/ 2 & 3 - Winter; 1/ 9 & 10 - Polar Bears; 1/ 16 & 17 - Chinese New Year; 1/ 27

Continued on page 4

## 2004 Holiday Garbage, Trash and Recycling Schedule

### January

#### New Year's Day Holiday

Monday - December 29, 2003  
Tuesday - December 30, 2003  
Wednesday - December 31, 2003  
Thursday - 1  
Friday - 2

Monday's route  
Tuesday's route  
Wednesday's route  
**HOLIDAY**  
Thursday's route

#### Martin Luther King Holiday

Monday - 19  
Tuesday - 20  
Wednesday - 21  
Thursday - 22  
Friday - 23

**HOLIDAY**  
Monday's route  
Tuesday's route  
Wednesday's route  
Thursday's route

### May

#### Memorial Day Holiday

Monday - 31  
Tuesday - June 1  
Wednesday - June 2  
Thursday - June 3  
Friday - June 4

**HOLIDAY**  
Monday's route  
Tuesday's route  
Wednesday's route  
Thursday's route

### July

#### Independence Day Holiday

Monday - 5  
Tuesday - 6  
Wednesday - 7  
Thursday - 8  
Friday - 9

**HOLIDAY**  
Monday's route  
Tuesday's route  
Wednesday's route  
Thursday's route

### September

#### Labor Day Holiday

Monday - 6  
Tuesday - 7  
Wednesday - 8  
Thursday - 9  
Friday - 10

**HOLIDAY**  
Monday's route  
Tuesday's route  
Wednesday's route  
Thursday's route

### November

#### Veteran's Day Holiday

Monday - 8  
Tuesday - 9  
Wednesday - 10  
Thursday - 11  
Friday - 12

Monday's route  
Tuesday's route  
Wednesday's route  
**HOLIDAY**  
Thursday's route

#### Thanksgiving Holiday

Monday - 22  
Tuesday - 23  
Wednesday - 24  
Thursday - 25  
Friday - 26

Monday's route  
Tuesday's route  
Wednesday's route  
**HOLIDAY**  
Thursday's route

### December

#### Christmas Holiday

Monday - 20  
Tuesday - 21  
Wednesday - 22  
Thursday - 23  
Friday - 24

Monday's route  
Tuesday's route  
Wednesday's route  
Thursday's route  
**HOLIDAY**

# City Management

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Joe S. Bailey  
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& 28 – Mice; 2/3 & 4 – Airplanes; 2/10 & 11 – Valentines.

The first **X-Cell Field Trip** of 2004 will be on Saturday, January 10 from 9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. to discover the science of fun at Alabama's state-of-the-art science center and largest IMAX Dome Theater. Through hands-on-exhibits, larger-than-life IMAX films, and quality educational programs, the McWane Center in Birmingham makes learning fun for all ages. The cost of the trip is \$20.00, and the deadline for registration is January 7. For more information, contact Melissa Weldon at 887-4930.



The **Ms. Senior Auburn 2004 Pageant** will be held at Monarch Estates on January 10. Local pageant winners will represent Auburn in the State pageant held in Mountain Brook in the Spring. The State winner will travel in Fall 2004 to compete in the National Ms. Senior America Pageant. The State winner will also be awarded a scholarship to be brought back to her area and given to a qualifying high school senior. Proceeds from the sale of tickets to the Ms. Senior Auburn 2004 Pageant will benefit the Auburn Tree Trust. For additional information, contact Pageant Coordinator Candy Masters at 826-8245 or Alison Hall at 887-4930, ext. 30.

The **RPG Book Club**, for students in grades 6-12, will meet January 13 from 4:00 – 5:00 p.m. at the Auburn Public Library to discuss "Wind of Fire Trilogy." For more information, contact Eve Kneeland at 501-3196.

**Salmagundi**, offered to children in grades K-5, will meet January 14 from 3:30 – 4:30 p.m. in the Youth Services area at the Auburn Public Library. January's theme is "Snowflakes." Call 501-3196 for more information.

**Young Adult Coffeehouse**, for students in grades 6-12, will meet January 15 from 6:30 – 7:30 p.m. at the Auburn Public Library. The theme is "New Year Celebrations Around the World."



The **2004 Auburn Classic Half Marathon** will be held at 7:30 a.m. on Saturday, January 17 at the Auburn Links Golf Course. Participants can pre-register for the race until January 10<sup>th</sup> for \$20.00 and late registration will be accepted until 7:15 a.m. the morning of the race for \$25.00. Proceeds from registration will benefit the Exceptional Outreach Organization. A large portion of the money raised by the organization fund the annual summer therapeutic camp administered by the Parks and Recreation Department. For additional information, visit [www.auburnrunning.org](http://www.auburnrunning.org) or contact Gloria Walsh, Race Coordinator at 821-7890. For more information regarding the Auburn Parks and Recreation Therapeutic program, contact Alison Hall at 887-4930, ext. 30.



A **Puppet Show** will be held at the Auburn Public Library at 3:30 p.m. on January 21. For more information, please call 501-3196.



Snow skiing in Alabama? You bet! As a part of the **X-Cell program**, students 12 –14 years old can enjoy a day of winter fun at Alabama's only alpine ski resort on Saturday, February 7<sup>th</sup>. Cloudmont Ski Resort, located in Mentone, AL, has two different one thousand foot ski slope challenges. Participants should bring a brown bag lunch and will leave at 6:00 a.m. and return at 6:00 p.m. The cost of the trip is \$40.00, and the deadline for registration is February 4. For more information, contact Melissa Weldon at 887-4930.



The annual **Daddy-Daughter Date Night** will be held on Friday, February 6 from 7:00 p.m. – 9:00 p.m. at the Best Western. Girls can dress up and enjoy an evening of dancing, refreshments, pictures, door prizes, and other surprises with their Dad. DJ Ozz is back by popular demand. Registration is open during the month of January at Dean Road Recreation Center. For more information, contact Alison Hall at 887-4930.



**Auburn CityFest 2004**, an all-day festival bringing music, arts, crafts, food, and children's activities to Kiesel Park, will be held Saturday, April 24. Applications are now being considered for volunteers, corporate sponsors, vendors, and craftspersons. To access the appropriate applications, visit [www.auburnalabama.org](http://www.auburnalabama.org) or contact Ali Lloyd-Wallace at 887-4930.