

Open Line

A Monthly Newsletter for City of Auburn Citizens

July 2004

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Open Line

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City of Auburn



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Council Adopts Goals

At its Retreat held on May 10 and 11, the City Council developed broad goals to guide the future direction of the City of Auburn. The Council formally adopted these goals at its June 1 City Council meeting.

1. *High Quality of Life* – Promote community life that includes cultural amenities, green space, recreational opportunities as well as low crime, neighborhood conservation, and the Village Center concept.

2. *A Unique Place* – Promote efforts to keep the distinctive image of

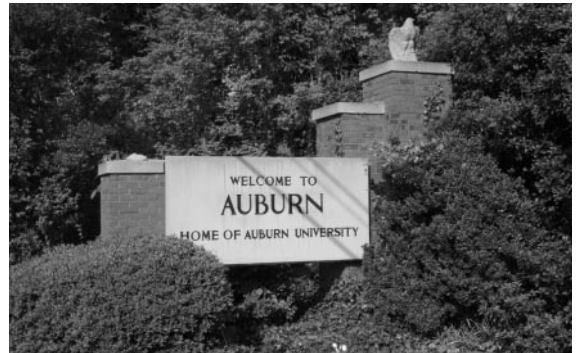
Auburn and to build a sense of stability for citizens through downtown development, historic preservation, green space and trees, and high standards for appearance.

3. *Planned Growth* – Promote a balanced and planned focus on growth with a vibrant business community, affordable housing, redevelopment efforts, and sound growth policies.

4. *A Shared Sense of Responsibility* – Promote efforts that will meet the needs of all citizens, encourage all citizens to be involved in civic affairs, and that will build partnerships and cooperation within the community.

5. *Efficient Use of Resources* – Maintain focus and consistency on how we will use resources and funds, be innovative, fair, and fiscally responsible.

These goals will be used by the Council to guide future policy and budgetary decisions.



Traffic Circles

In November 2002, the City Council approved the Neighborhood Traffic Calming Policy to aid citizens in resolving traffic problems in residential areas by encouraging citizen involvement in neighborhood traffic management activities.



The traffic calming circle at the intersection of Windway Road and Kentwood Drive has slowed traffic in that neighborhood.

One of the traffic calming devices that has been installed in a few neighborhoods in Auburn is the traffic circle. Currently, traffic circles are at the intersections of Windway Road/Kentwood Drive, Azalea Drive/Peachtree Lane, and Boulder Lane/Bedrock Drive.

Traffic circles, or traffic calming circles, function like miniature roundabouts. While they are new to Auburn, they are not new to American cities. They were invented in the early 20th century and used in cities

Continued on Page 2

Traffic Circles, *continued*

throughout Europe and the United States. Today, drivers are seeing them more frequently as cities across the country are installing them as traffic calming devices.

While the traffic circle is effective at slowing down traffic, redirecting cut-through traffic, and reducing the number and severity of accidents, some drivers are unsure about the "rules" for maneuvering around them. There are a number of things drivers should keep in mind when approaching one of these devices:

- All roads approaching the circle are marked with yield signs. *Drivers approaching the circle should yield to traffic already in the circle.*
- If two vehicles arrive at the circle at same time the vehicle to the right goes first.
- The recommended speed for a traffic circle is 15 miles per hour. This speed is recommended because it allows motorists to maneuver the intersection slowly enough to yield to the vehicles already in the circle.
- When making a left turn, drivers must go all the way around the circle before turning left.

Traffic circles are a safe and effective means for slowing traffic in residential neighborhoods when drivers understand the rules to maneuver the device. For more information about traffic calming devices, contact Brandy Ezelle at 501-3000.

GreenFACTS



In an effort to address the requirements of Auburn's Phase II Storm Water Program, City personnel received accreditation from the State. Recently twelve City staff members received their Qualified Credentialed Inspector certifications.

Auburn is Award-Winning

The City recently received two Outstanding Community Awards from Cayenta, Inc. for the fiscal year 2002 Comprehensive Annual Financial Report (CAFR). The City's CAFR was evaluated in five categories- strategic planning, infrastructure management, capital management, financial management, and social factors. The first of the awards recognized Auburn as one of the "Top Ten Best Overall Communities in North America." The second award named the City as the "Best Political Community in North America." This award was based in part on the City's long-term planning process for future capital needs. This is the first time the City has received these national awards. For more information about these awards, visit www.cayenta.com/coca.html.

The City also was selected to receive a "Special Achievement in GIS" award from Environmental Systems Research Institute (ESRI). The award is given to select user sites around the world in recognition of their outstanding work in the GIS field. Auburn was chosen to receive the award from over 100,000 user sites worldwide. ESRI will showcase the 2004 award winners on its website at www.esri.com/sag.



Meeting Schedule

- Board of Zoning Adjustment** – July 7, 4:30 PM, Council Chamber.
 - City Council** - July 7, 7:30 PM, Council Chamber. (Rescheduled from July 6, 2004).
 - Planning Commission** - July 8, 5:00 PM, Council Chamber.
 - Water Works Board** - July 12, 4:00 PM, Water and Sewer Conference Room, 214 North Donahue Drive.
 - Historic Preservation Commission** – July 13, 3:00 PM, Jan Dempsey Community Arts Center.
 - Board of Education** - July 13, 6:00 PM, AHS Multi-Media Room.
 - City Council** - July 20, 7:30 PM, Council Chamber.
 - Library Board** - July 22, 1:15 PM, Library Board Room.
 - Cemetery Advisory Board** - August 2, 4:00 PM, Dean Road Recreation Center.
 - Park & Recreation Advisory Board** - August 3, 5:30 PM, Dean Road Recreation Center.
 - City Council** - August 3, 7:30 PM, Council Chamber.
 - Tree Commission** - August 4, 4:30 PM, City Hall Annex.
 - Board of Zoning Adjustment** – August 4, 4:30 PM, Council Chamber.
 - Water Works Board** – August 9, 4:00 PM, Water and Sewer Conference Room, 214 North Donahue Drive.
- Meeting times and places are subject to change-*

Weidmann Plastics Technology

Holds Ribbon Cutting

Weidmann Plastics Technology North America, Inc. hosted a ribbon-cutting ceremony on Thursday, June 3 at its new manufacturing facility in the Auburn Technology Park South. This 45,000 square foot plant will supply Mercedes Benz in Vance, Alabama, as well as other automobile manufacturers. The company expects to hire approximately 30 new individuals initially with a capital investment of almost \$10 million.

Weidmann Plastics Technology AG is a global supplier of high-end injection molded plastic assemblies and components. Based in Rapperswil, Switzerland, 45 minutes from Zurich, Weidmann Plastics recorded 2003 sales of 181.3 million Swiss francs, equating to approximately \$135 million US dollars. With 640 employees at its operations at four sites in Switzerland, Spain and Brazil, Weidmann Plastics is recognized worldwide in the automotive, plumbing, sensor technology, and biomedical fields.

Weidmann Plastics Technology is a subsidiary of the WICOR Group, a global supplier of high voltage power insulation materials and plastics assemblies. With some 30 manufacturing locations and just over 3,900 employees worldwide, the WICOR Group had 2003 sales of \$426.5 million Swiss francs (\$317 million US dollars).

WEIDMANN
PLASTICS TECHNOLOGY

Still Time to Sign-up for Soccer Camps



The Auburn Soccer Association summer soccer camps are designed to offer participants four days of professional soccer training and development in a fun environment. Players will train and play games with their specific age groups.

ASA Rising Tiger Soccer Camp

Ages: 4-8

This camp offers the beginning player a chance to interact with children their own age in a fun environment conducive to learning. Camp instructors will be college and high school coaches and players. Campers will be divided into size and age groupings for skill instruction.

When: Camp II: July 13-16, 9:00-11:30 a.m.

Fee: \$65 • Payable to Auburn Soccer Association

ASA Jr. & Sr. Soccer Camp

Jr. Camp Ages: 9-12

Sr. Camp Ages: 13-18

This 4-day long camp environment will be aimed at improving soccer fundamentals. The curriculum will include passing, shooting, receiving, heading, dribbling, movement with and without the ball as well as positional play.

When: Camp II: July 12-15, 4-7 p.m.

Fee: \$80 • Payable to Auburn Soccer Association

ASA Goalkeeper Soccer Camp

Sr. Camp Ages: 8-18

Individualized instruction will be organized by a USSF & NSCAA nationally licensed former Division I college coach using the most advanced goalkeeper methods available. The 4-day long camp is designed to be physically and mentally challenging. The curriculum will cover techniques, tactics, conditioning and psychology of goalkeeping.

When: Camp II: July 12-15, 5-7 p.m.

Camp III: July 26-29, 9:30-11:30 a.m.

Fee: \$85 • Payable to Auburn Soccer Association

ASA Advanced Soccer Camp

Ages: 10-18

Instruction will be directed by a USSF & NSCAA nationally licensed Division I college coach for an exciting 4-day long camp environment to improve mental and physical development of the participants. The curriculum will include technical refinement, combination play, principles of attack and defense, and individual, group and team tactics.

Registration Deadline: July 16

When: July 26-29, 8:30 a.m.-11:30 a.m.

Fee: \$95 • Payable to Auburn Soccer Association



Lee County Water Festival

The City of Auburn and the Auburn Water Board participated in the first annual Lee County Water Festival at Auburn University on May 13 and 14. The water festival offered 4th grade students a hands-on interactive learning experience related to water resources. More than 1,500 students and teachers participated in learning experiences including an edible aquifer explaining how pollutants can seep into our watershed, a water bracelet explaining the different steps of the hydrologic cycle, and a mini-filtration exercise explaining how water is cleaned.

The children were also entertained by a magic show that highlighted the importance of water resources and the environment.



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up COMING EVENTS



The **Summer Invitational 2004** art exhibition will be open to the public at the Jan Dempsey Community Arts Center during July 1 - August 4. This exhibition will feature sculpture and mixed-media works by David Gentry and Guenn Johnson-Gentry. Admission is free. For more information, contact the Jan Dempsey Community Arts Center at 887-4938.

Celebrate **Independence Day** with your friends and neighbors at the City's Fourth of July Celebration. Enjoy food, live music and fireworks on Sunday, July 4th at the Duck Samford fields. The entertainment begins at 7:00 p.m. and fireworks will begin at 9:00 p.m. Bring your blanket and your family and enjoy a special evening in Auburn. Admission is free. For more information, call Alison Hall at 887-4930.



Let's Go Paddling! will be sponsored by the X-Cell Program. Youth ages 12-15 are invited to join in for a day of canoeing on the Coosa River. Chip Johnson, an ACA certified instructor with 25 years experience, will guide the trip. All gear will be provided. Chaperones and a certified lifeguard will be present for the trip. Participants should bring a brown bag lunch. Space is limited. The deadline to register is July 9. The trip will take place on Saturday, July 17 from 8:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. and the cost is \$20.00. Cash due on the day of the trip. For more information, contact Melissa Weldon at 887-4930.

The **Lifesouth Blood Drive** will be held at 122 Tichenor Avenue (near City Hall) on Wednesday, July 14 from 8:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. All donors will receive a t-shirt. Free parking will be available in the City Hall parking lot.

The **Summer Reading Program** at Auburn Public Library will conclude on Saturday, August 7. All reading lists should be turned into Youth Services by that date. The end of summer party will be on Friday, July 30 at 10:00 a.m. for ages 3-10. For more information, contact Eve Kneeland at 501-3196.



Board Vacancies

Two vacancies on the **Planning Commission** will be announced at the July 7 City Council meeting and will be filled at the August 3 City Council meeting. One incumbent is eligible for reappointment.



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

The Parks and Recreation Department is always looking for talented individuals who are willing to teach or instruct recreational classes in City facilities. Have you ever thought about teaching your unique or fun skill to others and get paid for it? Call 887-4930, ext. 30.

Fall 2004 Soccer Recreation League

Mail-in Registration is due by August 6 to the Auburn Soccer Association, PO Box 1533, Auburn, AL 36831.

Registration forms will be available on-line and at the Dean Road Recreation Center beginning on July 19.

Walk-in Registration will be held on August 7 from 10:00 a.m. until noon and on August 11 from 6:00 p.m. until 7:00 p.m. at the Auburn Soccer Complex on Wire Road.

For more information about soccer registration, call 887-4930.