

Open Line

A Monthly Newsletter for City of Auburn Citizens

December 2004

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City of Auburn

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Auburn's Industrial Sector Expands

The ground breaking of Leggett & Platt, Inc., a Fortune 500 company with a global presence, was held on November 12. This company represents the latest success in the City's efforts to recruit high quality industry that is compatible with our community and Auburn University. This plant supports an agreement that Leggett & Platt has entered into with another Auburn industry, Briggs & Stratton Corporation, whereby Leggett & Platt will supply aluminum castings to support Briggs & Stratton's Auburn assembly plant.



According to Daniel Hebert, President of Leggett & Platt Aluminum Group, the 140,000 square-foot facility will employ approximately 160 employee partners when in full production. "We at Leggett & Platt are very excited about partnering with Briggs & Stratton, an industry leader, and we are equally excited about becoming a corporate citizen in Auburn," said Mr. Hebert. Governor Bob Riley commented, "This announcement is certainly great news for Auburn, and I congratulate Mayor Ham, other local officials and the leadership at Leggett & Platt. What this all boils down to is new opportunity, more jobs and a stronger economy for our citizens. It's another sign that Alabama's economy is on the right track."

"Leggett & Platt's aluminum group is the leading independent producer of non-automotive die castings in North America. That allows them to provide Briggs & Stratton with the lowest total system cost, including not only the part price, but also tooling, transportation, and inventory management costs," said David DeBaets, Vice President & General Manager of Briggs & Stratton's Large Engine Division. "We are excited to have Leggett & Platt as our strategic partner in Auburn," said Mr. DeBaets.

Governor Bob Riley was the guest of honor at the grand opening ceremony at ATS Wheels in October. This 200,000 square foot facility is located on West Veterans Boulevard in the Auburn Industrial Park North. A result of a 1998 merger between Stahlschmidt & Maiworm of Germany, and Tiger Wheels Group of South Africa, ATS Wheels is a major player in the worldwide market for aluminum alloy wheels. The Company currently supplies high quality wheels to Daimler-Chrysler, GM, Ford, Volvo, Porsche, Audi, VW, BMW, Nissan, Saab, and others.

The Auburn facility is a highly automated, world-class operation that represents an initial investment of \$24 million with employment of 120 during Phase I, eventually reaching 325 employees. The Auburn plant currently supplies wheels to Mercedes in Vance, AL; BMW in Spartanburg, SC; and VW in Mexico.

These recent additions to Auburn's industrial sector will be major revenue producers for not only the City of Auburn, but also the Auburn City Schools.



Youth Field Trips for 3rd-6th Graders...Sign Up Now

Trip I: We will begin the day with bowling at Auburn Lanes, followed by a brown bag lunch, and then end the day with a movie at Wynnsong Cinemas. Participants should bring a brown bag lunch. Tennis shoes and socks are required. Must be registered by December 22.

When: Tuesday, December 28
10:00 a.m. - 3:30 p.m.

Location: All children need to meet at Dean Road Recreation Center

Coordinator: Melissa Weldon • 501-2946

Fee: \$10.00 • Payable to City of Auburn

Trip II: Join your friends and the Parks and Recreation Department for a wonderful visit to the Montgomery Zoo. See over 700 animals from 5 different continents who are all housed in natural, "barrier free" habitats. Bring a brown bag lunch and we will picnic with the giraffes. Must be registered by December 22.

When: Thursday, December 30
10:00 a.m. - 3:30 p.m.

Location: All children need to meet at Dean Road Recreation Center

Coordinator: Melissa Weldon • 501-2946

Fee: \$10.00 • Payable to City of Auburn



Going Out of Town?

If your holiday plans include travel, a few simple precautions will help ensure the safety of your home while you are out of town.

- Have newspaper delivery temporarily stopped while you are out of town. Piles of papers on the front door step are signs the homeowner is away.
- Go to the post office and fill out a hold order for your mail.
- Put your indoor lighting on a timer so would-be burglars think the home is occupied.
- Install outdoor lighting with motion sensors.
- Rather than completely turning off the heat, turn it down to ensure your pipes do not freeze.
- Do not leave descriptive answering machine messages saying you are out of town.
- Ask a trusted neighbor or friend to periodically



check the house to make sure everything is safe.

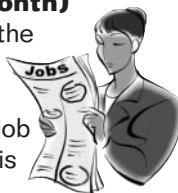
- Contact the Auburn Police Division and ask that your home be placed on a "House Check" list for extra patrol. Call 501-3150 during regular business hours or the non-emergency number at 501-3100 on weekends and nights.

Job Vacancies

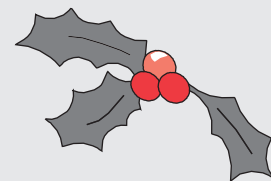
The City of Auburn has full-time and part-time positions in a wide range of areas. Some of the current regular, full-time job openings include:

- **Reference Librarian**
(**\$3,312.92-3,955.80/Month**)
- **Police Officer** (**\$2,588.05/Month**)

For updated job opportunities, visit the City's website at www.auburnalabama.org, contact the Alabama State Employment Office, or call the City's job line at 501-7250. The City of Auburn is an equal opportunity employer.



HOLIDAY SCHEDULES



During December, City Hall will be closed for the Christmas holidays on December 24 and the New Year's holiday on December 31. Public Safety services will be on normal schedule. Garbage, trash, and recycling services will not be affected by these holidays and will be on normal schedule.

Time to Renew Dog Licenses

The City of Auburn requires the owners of all dogs that are three months or older to have a City dog license for their pets. With a dog license, a missing dog can be identified quickly and returned to its owner instead of being detained in the Lee County Humane Shelter. Any dog owner whose dog is caught not wearing a City dog license could be subject to more than \$100 in fines and court costs.

To make purchasing a dog license more convenient, the City has implemented a way for dog owners to purchase the license by mail. Residents may download the City dog license form from the City's website at www.auburnalabama.org/finance/forms.html or they may call the Finance Department at 501-7220 and ask to receive a form by mail. The yearly license fee for each spayed or neutered dog, guide dog or dog whose owner is 65 or older is \$5.00; the license fee is \$15.00 for all other dogs. The completed form, a copy of the dog's rabies certificate, and documentation for special conditions (spayed/neutered, guide dog, dog owner is 65 or older) are required to purchase a license. A check payable to the City of Auburn for the total of the license fee applicable to each dog plus \$1.50 for postage and handling fees should be addressed to: Dog License, Revenue Office, City of Auburn, 144 Tichenor Avenue, Suite 6, Auburn, AL 36830.

Dog licenses are renewed each calendar year. Dog licenses for 2005 are currently being sold. To avoid a late penalty, renewals should be completed before January 31, 2005. For additional information on purchasing a dog license by mail, contact the Revenue Office at 501-7226 or 501-7227 or 501-7228.



Meeting Schedule

Tree Commission - December 1, 4:30 PM, City Hall Conference Room.

Board of Zoning Adjustment - December 1, 4:30 PM, Council Chamber.

Cemeteries Advisory Board - December 6, 4:00 PM, Dean Road Recreation Center.

Watershed Management Meeting of the City Council, Planning Commission, Water Board - December 6, 5:30 PM, City of Auburn Meeting Room, 122 Tichenor Avenue.

Park & Recreation Advisory Board - December 7, 5:30 PM, Dean Road Recreation Center.

City Council - December 7, 7:30 PM, Council Chamber.

Planning Commission - December 9, 5:00 PM, Council Chamber.

Water Works Board - December 13, 4:00 PM, Water and Sewer Conference Room, 214 North Donahue Drive.

Greenspace Advisory Board - December 14, 11:30 AM, City Hall Conference Room.

Historic Preservation Commission - December 14, 4:00 PM, Jan Dempsey Community Arts Center.

Board of Education - December 14, 6:00 PM, AHS Multi-Media Room.

City Council - December 21, 7:30 PM, Council Chamber.

Cemeteries Advisory Board - Monday, January 3, 2005, 4:00 PM, Dean Road Recreation Center.

Park & Recreation Advisory Board - Tuesday, January 4, 2005, 5:30 PM, Dean Road Recreation Center.

City Council - January 4, 7:30 PM, Council Chamber.

Tree Commission - January 5, 4:30 PM, City of Auburn Meeting Room, 122 Tichenor Avenue.

Board of Zoning Adjustment - January 5, 4:30 PM, Council Chamber.

Water Works Board - January 10, 4:00 PM, Water and Sewer Conference Room, 214 North Donahue Drive.

— Meeting times and places are subject to change —

Board Vacancies

Three vacancies on the **Board of Zoning Adjustment** will be announced at the December 7 City Council meeting and will be filled at the January 4, 2005 City Council meeting. Two incumbents are eligible for reappointment.

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



Off-Premise "For Sale" Signs Are Prohibited

Section 603.15 of the City of Auburn Zoning Ordinance states that only one real estate sign is permitted to face each street adjacent to property that is for sale. Also, all real estate signs (realty companies as well as those that are for sale by owner) shall be located only on the property that is for sale, lease, or rent. Off-premise real estate signs, such as directional signs to the property, are prohibited. Please help keep Auburn clean by refraining from placing these signs throughout the City.



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• • • • •
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up COMING EVENTS

The **Parks and Recreation winter brochure** is available now. Stop by any Parks and Recreation facility or City Hall to pick up your copy. The brochure is free to the public. Please note that all winter program registrations are Monday - Friday from 8:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m. at Dean Road Recreation Center. For additional information, contact Parks and Recreation at 501-2930.



The **2005 Parks and Recreation Calendar** is now available. This free 12-month calendar, beginning with January 2005, will list all of our special events, program quarters, brochure release dates, Auburn City School holidays, facility closings, and athletic registration dates. They will be available at City facilities including Dean Road Recreation Center, the Jan Dempsey Community Arts Center, City Hall, Auburn Public Library, Frank Brown Recreation Center, and Boykin Recreation Center. For more information, contact Ali Lloyd-Wallace at 501-2936.



The **Auburn Christmas Parade** will be held on Saturday, December 4 at 10:00 a.m. For more information, call the Auburn Chamber of Commerce at 887-7011.

Nutcracker Tea Party will be on Saturday, December 4 from 1:30 -4:00 p.m. at the Jan Dempsey Community Arts Center. Bring your child and experience the magic of the Nutcracker. Activities will include a reading of the Nutcracker, a mini-performance by the Auburn Ballet School, arts and crafts, and a tea party! Children under the age of six must be accompanied by an adult. Tickets are \$5 for adults and \$3 for children and may be reserved by calling the Jan Dempsey Community Arts Center at 501-2963.



The **Fibers Unlimited** exhibit at the Jan Dempsey Community Arts Center will be open to the public until December 18. The exhibit is free and will display works exploring form, design, and construction by members of Studio 222. This exhibit is open Monday through Friday from 8:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m. For more information, call the Jan Dempsey Community Arts Center at 501-2963.



The Auburn Public Library's **Annual Christmas Party** will be held Thursday, December 9 from 6:30 - 7:30 p.m. All ages are welcome. There will be stories, holiday activities, and a special guest. For more information, contact Eve Kneeland at 501-3190.

The City of Auburn will host a **LifeSouth blood drive** from 8:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. in the City Meeting Room located at 122 Tichenor Avenue (behind Cheeburger, Cheeburger) on January 18. Call Stephanie King at 501-7245 for more information.

Snow skiing in Alabama? You bet! As a part of the **X-Cell program**, students ages 12 -15 can enjoy a day of winter fun at Alabama's only alpine ski resort on Saturday, January 15 and Saturday, February 12. Cloudmont Ski Resort, located in Mentone, Alabama 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 which includes admission, lift tickets, a beginner lesson, and all equipment. Participants must be registered by January 10 for the first trip and by February 7 for the second trip. For more information, contact Melissa Weldon at 501-2946.



Please mark your calendars for the annual **Daddy-Daughter Date Night** to be held February 11 from 7:00 p.m. - 9:00 p.m. at the Best Western - University Convention Center Ballroom. Registration begins December 6. The cost is \$30 per couple and \$5 for each additional child. For more information, call Alison Hall at 501-2940.



CityFest 2005 applications and sponsorships are now available. Are you interested in participating in Auburn CityFest 2005 as a food or arts and crafts vendor? Do you want to sponsor the event or participate as a volunteer? If so, visit the official CityFest 2005 web site at www.auburnalabama.org/cityfest. The site has all the information you need to get involved. CityFest will be held on Saturday, April 30 from 9:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.

at Kiesel Park. For additional information, contact the Parks & Recreation Department at 501-2930.



Happy Holidays!