

Open Line

A Monthly Newsletter for City of Auburn Citizens

April 2009

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@alabamaincontractsales.com

Robin Kelley, Ward 5

501-7947
887-0033
robinkelleylaw@gmail.com

Dick Phelan, Ward 6

887-2071
dickphelan@yahoo.com

Gene Dulaney, Ward 7

887-7908
887-2721
gdulaney@auburnbank.com

Bob Norman, Ward 8

821-1901
bobnorman67@bellsouth.net

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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



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Senator Shelby Visits Constituents

In February, the City of Auburn and the Auburn Chamber of Commerce hosted Senator Richard Shelby's annual visit to Lee County in the City Council Chamber. Every year, Senator Shelby visits each county to meet with constituents, preview his legislative agenda, and field questions and comments from citizens. Senator Shelby has held over 1400 county visits since his election.

Commenting on the visit, Mayor Bill Ham, Jr. said, "Senator Shelby is a tireless advocate for the citizens of Alabama and his commitment to the City of Auburn and Auburn University is astounding. Senator Shelby successfully worked with our Congressional delegation to secure over \$18 million in funding for the addition of a much-needed third interchange, Exit 50 - Auburn Technology Park Interchange. Senator Shelby has also committed over \$2.9 million in funding for the Auburn-Opelika Robert G. Pitts Airport and has been instrumental in securing funds for technological advances for our Public Safety Department. We appreciate Senator Shelby's support of the Auburn community."



Mayor Ham presents Senator Shelby with a Proclamation and Key to the City during his annual visit to Lee County in February.

Auburn CityFest 2009 Saturday, April 25

Spring is here and that means Auburn CityFest, presented by the *Opelika-Auburn News*, is just around the corner. Mark your calendar for Auburn CityFest 2009 on Saturday, April 25 from 9 a.m. - 4 p.m. at Kiesel Park. CityFest is Auburn's largest FREE outdoor festival for families and people of all ages. More than 40,000 people visit the festival each year to enjoy a day filled with music, art, food, and fun.

**20 CITY
09 FEST
AUBURN**
KIESEL PARK



Festival goers will have the opportunity to visit fine art and arts & crafts exhibitors selling everything from paintings, pottery, sculpture, and prints to jewelry, hand-woven baskets, children's clothing, and much more. Be sure to visit the Non-Profit Showcase, the children's art exhibition, and the ArtFest tent. Don't miss special appearances by Aubie and Miss Auburn University throughout the day. Explore birds of prey at the Southeastern Raptor Center tent, try your hand at fishing in our trout pond, or enjoy a ride on a Jubilee Farms pony. Back by popular demand this year, the International Paul Bunyan Lumberjacks - as seen on ESPN - are sure to be a crowd favorite with their famous competitive logrolling show.

Children will enjoy an adventure through the Children's Imagination Station, complete with inflatable games, medieval demonstrations, and performances by the Bama Air Dogs. Other children's activities include face painting and games

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Auburn CityFest 2009

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at the Gamma Phi Beta carnival and a world of interactive storytelling with Sean Driscoll, the Storymaker.



Music lovers will enjoy performances by Todd Vickery, Martha's Trouble, and The Ben Caver Band. Caver, a rising Nashville singer and songwriter, headlines this year's musical talent. Purchase food from one of our many food vendors and enjoy a picnic lunch on the lawn while taking in the sights and sounds of this year's entertainment line-up. Attendees are encouraged to bring a blanket and chairs.



The 5th Annual Juried Art Show will be held in conjunction with Auburn CityFest. Artwork will be on display at the historic Nunn-Winston House located on the park grounds. A preview reception honoring the artists will be held on Wednesday, April 22 at Fountainview Mansion from 5:30 - 7:30 p.m. This event is free and open to the public.

Interested in becoming a part of the excitement? Volunteer applications are available on the CityFest website at www.auburncityfest.com.

Bring your family and friends and join us for Auburn CityFest 2009 on Saturday, April 25 from 9 a.m. - 4 p.m. CityFest is a rain or shine event. For more information and a complete list of our sponsors, please visit www.auburncityfest.com.



Board Vacancies

- One vacancy on the **Library Board** was announced at the March 3 City Council meeting and will be filled at the April 7 meeting.
- Two vacancies on the **Historic Preservation Commission** were announced at the March 3 City Council meeting and will be filled at the April 7 meeting.
- One vacancy on the **Board of Education** will be announced at the April 21 City Council meeting and will be filled at the May 19 meeting.



Citizens interested in serving are encouraged to contact their City Council member or notify the City Manager's Office at webocm@auburnalabama.org or call 501-7260.

Garbage, Trash and Recycling Collection Safety Tips and Reminders

When placing your items out for garbage, trash, and recycling collection, please avoid placing items on or near mailboxes, utility boxes, utility poles, or other fixed objects. Make sure all items are properly contained so they do not fall into the street or down storm drains. Careful placement of your garbage, trash, and recycling will help ensure your safety and the safety of your neighbors and our collection crews.

Remember that all items for garbage, trash, and recycling collection must be placed at the curb by 6 a.m. on your scheduled 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 Environmental Services Department at 501-3080 or visit our website at www.auburnalabama.org/es.



Items placed out for collection should not be placed on or near mailboxes, utility boxes, utility poles, or other fixed objects.

MEETING SCHEDULE

APRIL

- 1 Board of Zoning Adjustment**, 4:30 p.m., Council Chamber
- 3 Tree Commission**, 11:30 a.m., Chamber of Commerce Conference Room
- 6 Cemeteries Advisory Board**, 4 p.m., Dean Road Recreation Center
- 7 Industrial Development Board**, 4 p.m., City Hall Conference Room
- Parks & Recreation Advisory Board**, 5:15 p.m., Dean Road Recreation Center
- City Council**, 7 p.m., Council Chamber
- 9 Planning Commission**, 5 p.m., Council Chamber
- 14 Greenspace Advisory Board**, 11:30 a.m., City Meeting Room
- Historic Preservation Commission**, 4 p.m., Development Services Building
- Board of Education**, 6 p.m., AHS Multi-Media Room
- 21 City Council**, 7 p.m., Council Chamber
- 23 Water Works Board**, 4 p.m., Water Board Conference Room
- 28 Bicycle Committee**, 7 p.m., Development Services Building

Meeting times and places are subject to change

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

Auburn Citizens Approve Special Five Mill Projects

Work begins on Public Improvements

In January, Auburn citizens approved the use of proceeds from the Special Five Mill Tax Fund to provide a number of infrastructure, public works, and facility improvements throughout the City. The measure **does not** involve the addition of new taxes, but instead authorizes the use of existing tax monies.



Approved projects include:

High Priority Projects

- Donahue Drive/Magnolia Avenue intersection improvements
- FY09 & FY10 Resurfacing and street restriping
- North Donahue Bridge replacement
- Magnolia Avenue resurfacing and installation of raised crosswalks
- Moores Mill Bridge replacement
- Frank Brown Recreation Center renovation (Phase I)

Supplemental Projects

- Wire Road Bridge replacement
- Wire Road bikeway
- Utility asset mapping and maintenance project
- Fire Station No. 6 (cost of land and design)
- Traffic signal at intersection of West Samford Avenue and Shug Jordan Parkway (pending Alabama Department of Transportation approval)
- Mid-block crosswalk solar LED lighting

At press time, the Donahue Drive - Magnolia Avenue Project was out for bid and four additional projects were in the design phase.

For the latest news and project updates, please visit www.auburnalabama.org.

Keep Auburn Beautiful

City of Auburn needs your help to combat litter

The City of Auburn employs a number of measures in its ongoing efforts to keep Auburn beautiful. Street sweeping and right-of-way maintenance crews follow set schedules for the maintenance and cleaning of City property. As an affiliate of the Keep America Beautiful campaign, the City's Keep Auburn Beautiful Committee works to evaluate current City policies on public property maintenance in addition to educating the public on issues such as littering, recycling, and illegal dumping.



Did you know that litter is defined as anything deposited where it is not meant to be? Common sources of litter include:

- Pedestrians and cyclists who do not use receptacles.
- Motorists who do not use car ashtrays or litterbags.
- Trucks with uncovered loads on local roads and highways.
- Business dumpsters not properly covered.
- Loading docks and commercial areas with inadequate waste receptacles.
- Construction and demolition sites without tarps or receptacles for debris and waste.
- Household garbage scattered before collection.

You can help to minimize litter by setting an example not to litter. Traditionally, the more people litter, the more it becomes a habit. If an area is kept clean, people are less likely to litter.

By setting an example not to litter and utilizing waste and recycling receptacles, we can all do our part to help keep Auburn beautiful. Not only is it the right thing to do, it's the legal thing to do. Upon conviction, the penalty for littering consists of fines up to \$500 and/or 90 days imprisonment.

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

7th Annual Household Hazardous Waste Collection Day

Saturday, April 11

RECYCLE AUBURN The City of Auburn Environmental Services Department will host the 7th Annual Household Hazardous Waste Collection Day on Saturday, April 11 from 9 a.m. - 2 p.m. at the Environmental Services Complex, located at 365-A North Donahue Drive. This annual event offers citizens the opportunity to safely dispose of hazardous household chemicals. Computers and related equipment will also be accepted for recycling during the event.

Participation is limited to Auburn residential solid waste service customers only. Citizens may bring up to 20 pounds of materials per household for disposal. No farm, commercial, or industrial waste will be permitted. Participants are asked to bring a recent water bill to demonstrate proof of residency.

For a complete list of acceptable items, please visit us online at www.auburnalabama.org/es. For more information, please contact the City of Auburn Environmental Services Department at 501-3080.



New Water Bill Cycles Now In Effect

Auburn Water Works Board customers are reminded that multi-cycle billing is now in effect. Please check your monthly billing statement carefully, as your payment due date may have changed.

Please visit www.auburnalabama.org/water or contact the City of Auburn Water Revenue Office at 501-3050 for more information.

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
Department
Phillip Dunlap, Director
501-7270
pdunlap@auburnalabama.org

Environmental Services
Department
Timothy L. Woody, Director
501-3080
twoody@auburnalabama.org

Finance Department
Andrea E. Jackson, Director
501-7220
ajackson@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
Joe S. Bailey, Judge
501-3180
jbailey@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

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

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.



Now Available...Parks and Recreation Spring Brochure - The Parks and Recreation Spring Brochure is now available at City facilities and online at www.auburnalabama.org/parks. Be sure to get your copy today to learn about all of the exciting events going on in the City of Auburn this spring, including the Annual Easter Egg Hunt, Auburn CityFest, Bike Bash, and much more! For more information, contact the Dean Road Recreation Center at 501-2930.

Coming Soon...Jan Dempsey Community Arts Center Exhibitions - Mark your calendar for the following Jan Dempsey Community Arts Center Exhibitions. The exhibits are free and open to the public Monday - Friday from 8 a.m. - 5 p.m. For more information on the Gallery or future exhibitions, contact the Arts Center at 501-2963.



- **Student Art Exhibition**, March 23 - April 3. Works by Auburn High School art students.

Works from Auburn City Schools students in grades 1 - 12 will be on display throughout the Arts Center March 23 - April 3.

- **Spring Invitational**, April 6 - May 9. New works by area artists and photographers.



Tuesdays in April...Brown Bag Lunch Series at the Auburn Public Library - Join the Auburn Public Library for their Brown Bag Lunch Series on select Tuesdays in April from noon - 1 p.m. Bring your lunch and enjoy speakers on a variety of topics. For more information, including a list of dates and topics, visit www.auburnalabama.org/library or contact the Reference Desk at 501-3195.

Wednesdays in April...Preschool Story Time - Preschoolers ages 3 - 5 years are invited to join the Auburn Public Library for Preschool Story Time every Wednesday at 10 a.m. For more information, contact Youth Services at 501-3196.



Thursdays in April...Toddler Time - Toddlers ages 18 months - 3 years are invited to join the Auburn Public Library for Toddler Time every Thursday at 10 a.m. For more information, contact Youth Services at 501-3196.

April 1...Magic Tree House Club - Youth in grades K - 5 are invited to join the Auburn Public Library for the Magic Tree House Club April 1 at 3:30 p.m. This month's featured book title is *Tonight on the Titanic*. For more information, contact Youth Services at 501-3196.



April 2...Young Adult Coffeehouse - Youth in grades 6 - 12 are invited to join the Auburn Public Library for Young Adult Coffeehouse April 2 at 6:30 p.m. This month's topic focuses on Teen Literature Day and includes a discussion of popular teen authors and books. For more information, contact Youth Services at 501-3196.

Register by April 3...X-Cell Field Trip High Ropes Challenge - Youth ages 12 - 15 are invited to spend the day climbing, swinging, and jumping their way through the AU High Ropes Course April 18 from 8:30 a.m. - 4 p.m. The cost is \$45, payable in cash the day of the trip. Participants must be registered by April 3. For more information, contact Melissa Weldon at 501-2946.

April 3...First Friday Tennis Mixer - Join the Auburn Community Tennis Association for the First Friday Tennis Mixer April 3 at 6:30 p.m. at the City of Auburn/Auburn University Yarbrough Tennis Center. For more information, contact the Yarbrough Tennis Center at 501-2920.



April 4...Auburn Dog Club Volunteer Work Day - Calling all dog lovers! Join the Auburn Dog Club for a volunteer work day helping out the animals and staff of Rescue K911, an all-volunteer organization dedicated to the rescue of lost and homeless animals in our community, on April 4. Volunteers will meet at the Dean Road Recreation Center at 9:30 a.m. For more information, contact Melissa Weldon at 501-2946.

April 4...Guest Lecturer at Auburn Public Library - Richard Anderson will present a lecture on *Zelda* and *F. Scott Fitzgerald* at the Auburn Public Library April 4 at 2 p.m. For more information, contact the Reference Desk at 501-3195.

April 14...Puppet Show - Youth of all ages are invited to join the Auburn Public Library for a puppet show entitled *Clean Up This Mess!* April 14 at 3:30 p.m. For more information, contact Youth Services at 501-3196.



April 16...American Girls Club - Youth in grades K - 5 are invited to join the American Girls Club at the Auburn Public Library April 16 at 3:30 p.m. This month's featured character is Kirsten. For more information, contact Youth Services at 501-3196.

April 16...Bilingual Story Time/Cuentos Bilingües - Join the Auburn Public Library for Bilingual Story Time/Cuentos Bilingües April 16 at 6 p.m. The program is open to all ages. For more information, contact Youth Services at 501-3196.

April 16...Teen Earth Art Project - Teens in grades 6 - 12 are invited to join the Auburn Public Library April 16 at 7 p.m. for an earth-themed art project. Students will create original pieces of art from recyclable materials such as plastic, paper, aluminum, and Styrofoam.



April 19...Auburn Community Orchestra Performance - The Auburn Community Orchestra will perform a free concert April 19 at 4 p.m. at Kiesel Park. For more information, contact the Jan Dempsey Community Arts Center at 501-2963.

April 21...Auburn Public Library Book Club - The Auburn Public Library Book Club will meet April 21 at 6:30 p.m. For more information, contact the Reference Desk at 501-3195.



28th Annual Easter Egg Hunt

Join the City of Auburn Parks and Recreation Department for the 28th Annual Easter Egg Hunt Saturday, April 11 at 11 a.m. at Kiesel Park. More than 25,000 eggs will be hidden over a four-acre area. Bring your basket and join us for great music, free soft drinks & balloons, and a chance to meet the Easter Bunny! This FREE community event is for children ages 12 and under. In the event of rain, the egg hunt will be held Sunday, April 12 at 2 p.m. For more information, contact the City of Auburn Parks and Recreation Department at 501-2930.