

Open Line

A Monthly Newsletter for City of Auburn Citizens

May 2008

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Auburn Residents Voice Their Opinions

2008 Citizen Survey Results

For more than twenty years, the City of Auburn has conducted the Annual Citizen Survey asking Auburn Citizens to rate the quality of City services and to help set the direction for the City's budget and priorities. The 2008 Citizen Survey continues this tradition of citizen involvement in the governmental process.

The 2008 Citizen Survey reveals a high level of citizen satisfaction with Auburn's City Government, the City services provided and, in general, with life in Auburn. Ninety percent (90%) of Auburn's citizens are satisfied with Auburn City Schools. Ninety-five percent (95%) of Auburn's citizens are satisfied with Auburn as a place to live and 94% of Auburn's citizens think this is a great community in which to raise children. Ninety percent (90%) of Auburn's residents feel that Auburn is a safe place to live.

Citizen satisfaction with City services increased substantially in several key areas this year. Citizen satisfaction with City communication with the public rose 7% over last year. Citizen satisfaction with the overall appearance of the City rose 6% over last year. Citizen satisfaction with enforcement of speed limits in neighborhoods rose 7% over last year, and citizen satisfaction with maintenance of City streets rose 6% over last year.

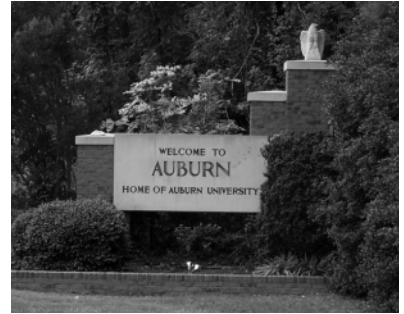
Seventy-four percent (74%) of Auburn's citizens feel they are receiving a good value for their tax dollar, placing the City of Auburn in the top 25% of cities nationwide. Citizen satisfaction with City services remains consistently strong as Auburn grows. In 1987, 77% of Auburn's citizens ranked City services as "good" or "excellent." This year, 83% of Auburn's citizens indicated they were "satisfied" or "very satisfied" with City services.

The 2008 Citizen Survey identified several areas where the City should continue to focus, including traffic flow and the maintenance of City streets. When Auburn citizens were asked what one thing they would change about Auburn, over 27% either did not answer the question or answered that they would change nothing. The answers to this question included a number of comments, representing approximately 16% of the overall survey respondents, on a variety of growth-related topics including comments on high-density housing; zoning; Auburn's character and the availability of retail, recreational and professional opportunities.

The Citizen Survey is an independently conducted, scientifically valid survey, and an invaluable tool for City government in gauging citizen satisfaction, priorities and concerns as the City develops the biennial budget for FY 2009 & 2010 and plans for the future. The complete Citizen Survey document is available online at www.auburnalabama.org/survey as well as at the Auburn Public Library. The City of Auburn wishes to thank those citizens who participated in this year's survey.

For more information, please contact Auburn City Hall at 501-7260

2008 Citizen Survey Results
www.auburnalabama.org/survey



10th Annual Mayor's Memorial Day Breakfast



The City of Auburn and the Auburn Veterans Committee invite citizens to participate in the 10th Annual Mayor's

Memorial Day Breakfast on Monday, May 26 at 8 a.m. at The Hotel at Auburn University and Dixon Conference Center. This breakfast is to honor the United States Military and to recognize those soldiers who have made the supreme sacrifice. Tickets for the breakfast are available at City Hall for \$20 each or \$200 for a table. Proceeds from ticket sales go to the Auburn Veterans Memorial Fund.

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Memorial Day Breakfast

(continued from page 1)

First Lieutenant Douglas J. Watson will be the guest of honor and the recipient of the 2008 City of Auburn Distinguished Veteran Award. The award seeks to recognize veterans who have made a contribution to Auburn both through their service in the Armed Forces and to the Auburn community. Lt. Watson served in the United States Army Infantry from 1968-1971, including service in Vietnam. Following his tenure in the military, Watson began a storied career in municipal government, including 22 years of service as Auburn's City Manager.

Immediately following the breakfast, at 10 a.m., the City of Auburn will hold a memorial wreath laying ceremony at the Auburn Veterans Memorial Monument, located at the northeast corner of Ross Street and Glenn Avenue. Ceremony attendees are encouraged to park at the Douglas J. Watson Municipal Complex and Felton Little Park. Ross Street will be closed from Glenn Avenue to Harper Avenue to allow parking for the disabled.

Please join us on Monday, May 26 as we honor the men and women who have courageously served our country. For more information, please contact the City of Auburn Economic Development Department at 501-7270.

Auburn Arts Association Fundraiser May 30



The Auburn Arts Association, in conjunction with the Jan Dempsey Community Arts Center, will hold the 1st Annual Blues and Jazz Festival Fundraiser at Grey-stone Mansion and Auburn University's Pebble Hill on Friday, May 30 from 5 p.m. - 11 p.m.

For more information or to purchase tickets, please contact the Jan Dempsey Community Arts Center at 501-2963.

Memorial Day Schedule



City Hall will be closed on Monday, May 26 in observance of Memorial Day. Public Safety services, including Police, Fire, and Communications, will remain on regular schedules. The collection of garbage, trash, and recycling for the week of May 26 - 30 will change as follows:

Normal Collection Day

Monday
Tuesday
Wednesday
Thursday

Holiday Pick-Up Schedule

Tuesday, May 27
Wednesday, May 28
Thursday, May 29
Friday, May 30

Don't Let Summer Boredom "BUG" You

Sign Up for the Summer Reading Program

Swarm in to the Auburn Public Library and sign up for the summer reading program. Registration begins Tuesday, May 27. Activities will begin in June. For more information, please contact the Youth Services Desk at 501-3196 or visit the Library online at www.auburnalabama.org/library.



Preschool - Incoming 5th Graders
"Catch the Reading Bug"

Incoming 6th - 12th Graders
"Metamorphosis @ Your Library"

May Sundown Concert Series at Kiesel Park



Enjoy the Sundown Concert Series at Kiesel Park, presented by the City of Auburn Parks and Recreation, each Thursday night in May from 6 p.m. - 7:30 p.m. at the Kiesel Park Pavilion. Attendees are encouraged to bring blankets, chairs, and a picnic dinner. Dogs are welcome. Don't miss the following outstanding performances during the May Concert Series:

May 1	Martha's Trouble
May 8	Jamie Barber and Granville
May 15	Noisy Deirdre
May 22	Saugahatchee Ramblers
May 29	Caterpillars of the Community



For more information, please see the May Concert series story on the main page of the City's website at www.auburnalabama.org or contact the City of Auburn Parks and Recreation Department at 501-2930.

The City of Auburn recognizes the week of May 5 - 9, 2008 as "Paint the Town Purple Week." Mayor Bill Ham, Jr. has declared Friday, May 9, 2008 "Relay for Life Day" in the City of Auburn and asks that residents and businesses display purple bows on their doors in support of the American Cancer Society and Relay for Life.

The City of Auburn is pleased to recognize "Paint the Town Purple Week" with this purple issue of *Open Line*.

Board Vacancies

- One vacancy on the **Board of Education** was announced at the April 1 City Council meeting and will be filled at the May 6 meeting.
- One vacancy on the **Water Works Board** will be announced at the May 20 City Council meeting and will be filled at the June 17 meeting.



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

Job Vacancies

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

- **Police Officer**
(\$2,971.21 - 3,547.77/month)
- **Network Engineer-Web Developer**
(\$3,803.39 - 4,541.44/month)
- **GIS Programmer/Analyst**
(\$3,279.65 - 3,916.07/month)



For updated job opportunities, visit the City's website at www.auburnalabama.org/jobs, 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.

The City of Auburn Invites you to Celebrate National Bike Month™



This year marks the 52nd consecutive year the League of American Bicyclists has declared May National Bike Month™. The City of Auburn and the Auburn Bicycle Committee will host a number of events throughout the month of May to commemorate the occasion, including

recreational bike rides, Bike-to-Work/Bike-to-School Week, a proclamation signing, and a course on bicycle safety.

In conjunction with National Bike Month activities, the City of Auburn is proud to announce the launch of the Bicycle Loaner Program on Thursday, May 1. Bicycles used for the loaner program are taken from unclaimed recovered property, with repair and maintenance provided by The Bike Shop. The program allows citizens and visitors to borrow a bicycle and helmet for up to two weeks for the purpose of commuting and/or recreational use. To promote the new program, the City of Auburn will host one recreational ride a week during the month of May. If you have never tried bicycling as a recreational activity, now is the perfect opportunity. Grab a bicycle and helmet from the Bicycle Loaner Program and join us for a ride along one of Auburn's bicycle paths.

Auburn residents are encouraged to get out and enjoy the 32 miles of bicycle and multi-use paths throughout the City. Be sure to look for news and announcements of National Bike Month™ activities throughout the month of May. For more information, please visit www.auburnalabama.org/cycle or contact Brandy Ezelle, Auburn Bicycle Coordinator, at 501-3029.

clip out and save

Because Every Drop Counts... Water Conservation Tip For May

When washing your car, position it, when possible, so the rinse water falls on plants and grass, not the driveway. Rinse water can be used for watering your lawn and can decrease the amount of irrigation water that you would use for watering your lawn or landscaping. The average person washing their car at home consumes 30 gallons of water when using a hose with an automatic shut-off nozzle. That statistic jumps to 100 gallons per car wash when using a hose without an automatic shut-off nozzle.

Meeting Schedule

MAY

- 2 Tree Commission**, 11:30 a.m., Chamber of Commerce Conference Room
- 5 Cemeteries Advisory Board**, 4 p.m., Dean Road Recreation Center
- 6 Parks & Recreation Advisory Board**, 5:15 p.m., Dean Road Recreation Center
- City Council**, 7 p.m., Council Chamber
- 7 Board of Zoning Adjustment**, 4:30 p.m., Council Chamber
- 8 Planning Commission**, 5 p.m., Council Chamber
- 12 Water Works Board**, 4 p.m., Water Resource Management Conference Room
- 13 Greenspace Advisory Board**, 11:30 a.m., City of Auburn Meeting Room
- Historic Preservation Commission**, 4 p.m., Development Services Building
- Board of Education**, 6 p.m., AHS Multi-Media Room
- 20 City Council**, 7 p.m., Council Chamber
- 22 Library Board**, 10 a.m., Library Board Room
- 27 Bicycle Committee**, 7 p.m., Development Services Building

JUNE

- 3 Parks & Recreation Advisory Board**, 5:15 p.m., Dean Road Recreation Center
- City Council**, 7 p.m., Council Chamber
- 4 Board of Zoning Adjustment**, 4:30 p.m., Council Chamber
- 6 Tree Commission**, 11:30 a.m., Chamber of Commerce Conference Room

Meeting times and places are subject to change

For a map of City meeting locations, please visit www.auburnalabama.org/maps/MeetingLocations

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Municipal Judge
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Planning Department
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Public Works Department
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Water Resource Management Dept.
Laura A. Koon, Director
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Auburn City Schools
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up COMING EVENTS



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.

Due to space considerations, we are unable to publicize any events that are not directly affiliated with a City department



Mondays, Wednesdays, & Fridays in May...Auburn Stride Walkers Club - Citizens of all ages are invited to join the Auburn Stride Walkers Club. This club meets at various City walking trails on Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays at 9 a.m. Schedules are posted on the City's website at www.auburnalabama.org. This program is free to the public. For more information, contact Melissa Weldon at 501-2946 or Dee Watson at 501-2948.

Now Showing...Jan Dempsey Community Arts Center Exhibition - 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.



- **10th Annual Juried Art Exhibition**, through May 10. A competitive exhibition open to artists and craftspersons residing or employed in Lee County.
- **Summer Invitations Exhibition 2008**, May 16 - June 14. Works in a variety of media by area and regional artists.



May 4...Auburn Dog Club Fun Walk - Calling all dogs and dog owners! Join the Parks and Recreation Department for a fun walk on May 4 at 2 p.m. at Kiesel Park. Participants will meet at the Kiesel Park Pavilion. All ages are welcome; however, children 12 years and younger must be accompanied by an adult. Each walk will begin with a brief educational seminar. Walks will be at your own pace. Donations of dog food and toys will be collected for the Lee County Humane Society. For more information, contact Melissa Weldon at 501-2946.

Coming May 5...Parks and Recreation Summer Brochure - The Parks and Recreation Summer Brochure will be available at various City facilities and online at www.auburnalabama.org/parks beginning May 5. Be sure to pick up your copy to learn about all of the classes, programs, and special events going on in the City of Auburn this summer. Summer programs registration will be held May 5 - 30. For more information, contact Parks and Recreation at 501-2930.



Register by May 9...X-Cell High Ropes Challenge - Youth ages 12 - 15 years are invited to join the Parks and Recreation Department for a day of fun at the Auburn University High Ropes Course on May 24 from 11:30 a.m. - 4:30 p.m. The course features high elements 35 - 40 feet above the ground, including the Burma Bridge, Multi-Swing, Swing Shot, and the Zip Line. The cost is \$30 and participants must be registered by May 9. For more information, contact Melissa Weldon at 501-2946.



Beginning May 14...Auburn Area Community Theatre's Laura Ingalls Wilder: Voice of the Prairie - The Auburn Area Community Theatre will present *Laura Ingalls Wilder: Voice of the Prairie*, written by Kathryn Miller Schultz, at the Jan Dempsey Community Arts Center. Performances will be held May 14 - 16 at 6:30 p.m. and May 17 at 2 p.m. & 5 p.m. Tickets are \$8 for adults and \$6 for students and seniors. For more information, please contact the Jan Dempsey Community Arts Center at 501-2963.

May 17...Swim Lessons / Auburn Aquatics Swim Team / Auburn Dive Team Registration - Registration for swim lessons, the Auburn Aquatics Swim Team, and the Auburn Dive Team will be held simultaneously on May 17 from 1 p.m. - 3 p.m. at Samford Pool. Participants signing up for swim lessons must bring a swimsuit to registration and will be required to take a water skills test on the day of registration. For more information, contact the Dean Road Recreation Center at 501-2930.



May 19...Auburn City Pools Open - Auburn City Pools open for the season on May 19. Admission is \$2/person. Children 1 & under are free. Individual season passes are available for \$50. Family passes are \$100. Season passes go on sale at the Dean Road Recreation Center May 5. For more information, including pool schedules, visit www.auburnalabama.org/parks/pools.asp or contact the Dean Road Recreation Center at 501-2930.



June 7...16th Annual Fishing Rodeo - Cast into summer with Parks and Recreation at the 16th Annual Fishing Rodeo, sponsored by Evans Realty, on June 7 from 8 a.m.-Noon at the lake at Auburn Technology Park South. Bring your lucky fishing pole and we'll supply the bait. Prizes will be awarded for the Biggest and Smallest Fish caught and the first 200 children will receive a Zebco Rod and Reel, courtesy of Evans Realty. This event is open to youth ages 12 and under. Children must be accompanied by an adult. For more information, contact Alison Hall at 501-2940.



Auburn CityFest 2008 Sponsors

The Auburn CityFest Committee would like to thank its sponsors for their generous support of Auburn CityFest 2008:

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The Opelika-Auburn News.

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