

Open Line

A Monthly Newsletter for City of Auburn Citizens

July 2013

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City of Auburn



GE Aviation Celebrates Factory Opening in Auburn

GE Aviation recently celebrated the grand opening of its new jet engine components factory, expected to create hundreds of jobs in Auburn.

Joining GE Aviation President and CEO David Joyce for the opening ceremony were Governor Robert Bentley, Alabama House Speaker Mike Hubbard and Auburn Mayor Bill Ham, Jr.



The 300,000-square-foot advanced manufacturing plant will produce precision, super-alloy machined parts for GE

jet engines that will power future commercial and military aircraft, and will support the vast fleet of GE jet engines already in service. GE expects to hire 50 employees by the end of 2013. The facility could ultimately represent an investment of \$75 million in the State of Alabama, with 300 to 400 people employed when the plant is at full ramp-up later this decade.

"The opening of this facility will lead to more good jobs for the people of Alabama," Governor Robert Bentley said. "Alabama has the best workforce you can find, and our role in the aviation industry continues to grow. I appreciate the investment GE Aviation is making in Alabama. On the state and local levels, we are committed to helping GE Aviation succeed here in Auburn."

GE Aviation selected Auburn in large part because of its access to a skilled work force and its proximity to Alabama's university system. GE has partnered with Alabama Industrial Development Training (AIDT) to develop pre-employment training programs, with Southern Union State Community College (SUSCC) handling a portion of pre-employment training. To develop a pipeline of young talent, GE has worked with Auburn University and Tuskegee University to create internship and co-op opportunities for students.

The Auburn facility will manufacture high-pressure turbine (HPT) airfoils and is expected to deliver its first parts later this year.

Forbes Ranks Auburn/Opelika in Best Small Cities for Jobs

Forbes.com has ranked the Auburn/Opelika Area 10th on this year's list of America's best small cities for jobs.

Forbes ranked 398 metropolitan statistical areas (MSAs), including 241 MSAs with less than 150,000 jobs. Rankings were based on employment data over more than a decade, growth trends and "the region's momentum." Forbes cites economic diversity, affordability and quality of life as key to job creation.

Auburn Mayor Bill Ham, Jr. said "This couldn't be a better follow-up to what our citizens told us in the Annual Citizen Survey. We've been working for decades to build a diverse, stable economy and rankings like this are a testament to the success of that approach. In Auburn, Alabama, we're dedicated to creating job opportunities and maintaining our excellent school system and quality of life."

Other recent Forbes rankings include the #6 "Best Small Place for Business and Careers in the U.S." in 2010, "#1 in Projected Job Growth in the U.S." in 2009 and the "6th Fastest Growing Small Metro in the U.S." in 2008.



City of Auburn Development Services Departments Temporarily Relocated

City of Auburn departments housed in the Development Services Building of the Douglas J. Watson Municipal Complex have temporarily relocated their offices to allow for planned building maintenance. The Public Works Department, Planning Department and Codes Enforcement Division of the Public Safety Department have relocated while necessary HVAC replacement and building maintenance are completed. Building maintenance will require approximately six months to complete.

During this time, affected departments may be accessed at their temporary locations as provided below:



Codes Enforcement Division: Effective Wednesday, May 8, 2013

Temporary Location: Public Safety Administrative Building, 161 North Ross St.
Phone: 501-3170

Planning Department: Effective Monday, May 13, 2013

Temporary Location: City Meeting Room, 122 Tichenor Ave.
Phone: 501-3040

Public Works Department: Effective Thursday, May 16, 2013

Temporary Location: Construction and Maintenance Building, 365-B North Donahue Dr.
Phone: 501-3000

Signs are posted at the Development Services Building, and at each of the temporary locations to help direct citizens. A Relocation Map is available at www.auburnalabama.org.

Phone and email contact information will remain the same. The City of Auburn apologizes for any inconvenience these temporary relocations may cause.

Announcing the 2013 Citizens' Planning Academy

The City of Auburn's Planning Department will begin its fourth offering of the Citizens' Planning Academy on Thursday, September 19th, 2013. The academy is open to all Auburn residents and will be held at a location to be announced. The class will consist of six (6) sessions held every Thursday evening beginning September 19 and ending October 24 from 5:30 pm to 7:00 pm.

Over the training period, participants will learn the basics of planning and how different departments, developers and individuals interact in the planning process. Participants will also learn about the City of Auburn's Comprehensive Plan and other ongoing projects. Other topics include:

- Planning in Auburn (Requirements and responsibilities of the Planning Department)
- The Roles and Responsibilities of Auburn's Boards and Commissions
- Long-Range Planning
- The Role of Other City Departments in Planning
- A Professional Engineer's View on Planning in Auburn
- Auburn University Campus Planning
- Historic Preservation
- Zoning Enforcement
- Online Resources

Citizens interested in participating in the academy are encouraged to apply early due to limited seating. The program is free to all participants. For more information, including registration, please contact Tyler Caldwell at 501-3040 or at tcaldwell@auburnalabama.org.

MEETING SCHEDULE JULY

- 1 Cemeteries Advisory Board**, 4:00 p.m., Harris Center, 425 Perry Street
- 2 Parks & Recreation Advisory Board**, 5:15 p.m., Harris Center, 425 Perry Street
- City Council**, 7 p.m., Council Chamber, 141 North Ross Street
- 9 Greenspace Advisory Board**, Noon, Harris Center, 425 Perry Street
- Historic Preservation Commission**, 4 p.m., Auburn Public Library Board Room, 749 E. Thach Avenue
- Board of Education**, 6 p.m., AHS Multi-Media Room, 405 South Dean Road
- 10 Board of Zoning Adjustment**, 4:30 p.m., Council Chamber, 141 North Ross Street
- 11 Planning Commission**, 5 p.m., Council Chamber, 141 North Ross Street
- 16 City Council**, 7 p.m., Council Chamber, 141 North Ross Street
- 18 Water Works Board**, 4 p.m., Water Board Conference Room, 1501 West Samford Avenue
- 23 Library Board**, 2 p.m., Library Board Room, 749 East Thach Avenue
- 30 Bicycle Committee**, 7 p.m., Dean Road Recreation Center, 307 South Dean Road

Meeting times and places are subject to change.

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

Annual Fourth of July Celebration Sponsored by Briggs & Stratton

Celebrate Independence Day with the entire Auburn Community, Auburn Parks and Recreation, and Briggs and Stratton on the evening of Thursday, July 4. Enjoy great food, LIVE music from The Answer, free goodies courtesy of Briggs and Stratton, and THE best fireworks display in the entire area! This FREE celebration will be held behind the home side of Duck Samford Football Stadium.

Grab your picnic basket, blanket, and family and join us for a fabulous night of entertainment and a chance to show your patriotic spirit! Gates open at 6:00 p.m. Purchase an all American picnic style dinner of barbecue with all of the fixings, enjoy tasty ice cream treats, and enjoy FREE balloon animals for the kids! Live music begins at 7 p.m., followed by fireworks at 9:00 p.m.

REMINDER: The parking lot off of Airport Road between the Bo Cavin fields and the new Duck Samford Fields will be closed to the public during the event to accommodate our fireworks shoot site. The parking lot off East University Drive (across from McAlister's) will be OPEN to the public for parking.

In case of rain, join us for the fireworks only on Friday, July 5 at 9 p.m. For more information, visit www.auburnala-bama.org/parks and follow the City of Auburn on Facebook for weather updates.



Sign Up for Summer Art Camps

Registration for summer art camps is going on now at the Jan Dempsey Community Arts Center. These camps are created using a curriculum that will make your child more knowledgeable about various aspects of art. Each camp has two to five sessions, each lasting one week. Don't miss these great camps, including:

Art for Young Children

Ages 4 - 6 • 6/25 - 6/27, 7/23 - 7/25, 8/6 - 8/8 • 10 a.m. - noon • \$50/week, \$45/additional child

Visual Art Workshops for Children

Ages 7 & up • 6/17 - 6/21, 7/8 - 7/12, 7/15 - 7/19, 7/29 - 8/2, 8/12 - 8/16 • 9:30 a.m. - 12:30 p.m., \$70/week, \$65/additional child

Young Artist Atelier

This camp is held in conjunction with the Jule Collins Smith Museum.

Ages 11 - 15 • 6/24 - 6/28, 7/22 - 7/26 • 10 a.m. - 2:30 p.m. • \$100/week

Camp participants may register at the Jan Dempsey Community Arts Center Monday - Friday, 8 a.m. - 5 p.m. Camp fees are payable in full at the time of registration to the Auburn Arts Association. Pricing is per child, per session. A limited number of needs-based scholarships are available.

The Louise Kreher Forest Ecology Preserve: Yours to Discover

If you're looking for an outdoor experience close to home this summer, the Louise Kreher Forest Ecology Preserve on N. College Street in Auburn is the destination you seek.

The Preserve is free and open to the public seven days a week from sunrise to sunset and features more than 30 walking trails on 120 acres. Enjoy a hike to one of our many attractions including: the pond, waterfall, nature viewing areas, butterfly garden, and nature playground. Free tours and guided hikes are offered on Tuesdays and Thursdays and educational programs on wildlife and other aspects of nature and ecology are offered monthly for a small admission fee.

The Louise Kreher Forest Ecology Preserve, a community outreach program for Auburn University's School of Forestry and Wildlife Sciences, was established in 1993 by a gift of land from Louise Kreher Turner and Frank Allen Turner and is dependent on grants and private contributions for its operations.

The City of Auburn is proud to support the preserve, which provides citizens with an excellent complement to city parks. Discover the preserve, and consider becoming a member of this award-winning community resource for nature education. Visit www.auburn.edu/preserve to learn more about member benefits and for a complete list of upcoming events.

Board Vacancies

Two vacancies on the **Auburn Downtown Redevelopment Authority** were announced at the June 18, 2013 meeting and will be filled at the July 16, 2013 City Council meeting.



One vacancy on the **Greenspace Advisory Board** was announced at the June 18, 2013 meeting and will be filled at the July 16, 2013 City Council meeting.

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

Auburn Public to Library Host "Genealogy 101"

In celebration of Family Reunion Month in July, the Auburn Public Library (APL) will present "Genealogy 101." Join the Electronic Services Division staff in the library's board room on the following Thursday afternoons beginning at 2:00 p.m.:

July 11 – Your Family's History

July 18 – Introduction to Ancestry.com

July 25 – Introduction to the U.S. Census

August 1 – African-American Genealogy

August 8 – Making a Family History Scrapbook

Due to limited space, those interested in participating should RSVP to the APL Electronic Services Division at 501-3194.

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Library
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Municipal Court
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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.

Fourth of July City Services Schedule

City Hall will be closed Thursday, July 4 in observance of Independence Day. Public Safety services, including Police, Fire, and Communications, will remain on their regular schedules. The collection of garbage, trash, and recycling will be delayed by one day during the week of July 1-5, as follows:

Normal Collection Day
Monday
Tuesday
Wednesday
Thursday

Holiday Collection Schedule
Monday, July 1
Tuesday, July 2
Wednesday, July 3
Friday, July 5

up COMING EVENTS

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

Auburn Public Library

For more information, contact Auburn Public Library's Youth Services at 501-3196.

Registration for the Summer Reading Program for ages 3 through rising high school seniors continues through June 30.

Baby Time - Tuesdays at 10:00 a.m. for ages birth – 18 months and their caregivers.

Toddler Time - Wednesdays at 10:00 a.m. for ages 18 months - 3 years and their caregivers.

Preschool Time - Thursdays at 10:00 a.m. for preschoolers ages 3 - 5 years and their caregivers.

Salmagundi – Wednesdays from 2:00–3:00 p.m. for rising K-5th grades students.

Legomania – Join us every Friday and Saturday from 9:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m. for “free play” with Legos®.

SHOUT – Mondays, July 18 and July 22 from 6:30-8:30 p.m. Rising 6–7 grade students are invited to take part in activities and refreshments.

Teen Café – Mondays, July 1 and July 15 from 6:30-8:30 p.m. Rising 8–12 grade students are invited to take part in activities and refreshments.



Parks and Recreation

For more information on any of the events listed, or to pre-register for a program, contact Auburn Parks and Recreation at 501-2930 or visit www.auburnalabama.org/parks.

Now Showing...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.

Summer Invitational 2013, June 24 - July 26. New works by Natalyn Havenick Rose and Po Wiese.

Open Daily...Auburn City Pools - The Auburn City Pools are open for daily swim hours! Purchase your 2013 Splash Pass at the Harris Center, 425 Perry Street, weekdays from 8 a.m. - 5 p.m. Splash Passes are good for unlimited admission to Auburn City Pools all summer. Passes are \$50 for individuals and \$125 for families. Family passes are good for immediate family members, including parents or guardians and children under the age of 19, residing in the same household only. For daily pool schedules, swim lesson offerings, special events, and more, pick up a copy of the Parks and Recreation Summer Brochure and be sure to visit us online at www.auburnalabama.org/pools.

Register by July 3...Sports Camp - Join us for an exciting five-day camp aimed at providing boys and girls with a wide range of sports activities July 8 - 12 from 9 a.m. - Noon. Campers will have the opportunity to participate in a different sport each day. Sports include baseball, soccer, tennis, track, and basketball. Camp will be held at a different Parks and Recreation facility each day. The cost is \$50/camper. Pre-registration is required by July 3.

Register by July 11...Teen Scene Field Trip - Youth ages 12 - 15 are invited to join Auburn Parks and Recreation for a day of kayaking on the Coosa River on Saturday, July 20 from 8:30 a.m. - 4 p.m. The cost of the trip is \$30, payable in cash on the day of the trip. Participants should provide their own lunch in a soft-sided, waterproof container and wear appropriate clothing, sunscreen, and footwear that will stay on during a swim. River equipment will be provided. Pre-registration is required by Thursday, July 11.

Register by July 5...Rising Tiger, Junior, and Senior Soccer Camps - The Auburn Soccer Association will host Rising Tiger (ages 4 - 7), Junior (ages 8 - 12, and Senior (ages 13 - 15) soccer camps July 8 - 11 at the Auburn Soccer Complex. These camps offer youth an opportunity to receive instruction from college and high school coaches and players. Rising Tiger camp is from 5 - 7:30 p.m. each day and the cost is \$70/camper. Junior and Senior camp is from 5 - 8 p.m. each day and the cost is \$85/camper. Participants must be registered by July 5.

July 12...Outdoor Movie Series - Let's go to the movies! Join Auburn Parks and Recreation for a FREE outdoor movie on Field 1 at Duck Samford Park on Friday, July 12 at 8:30 p.m. Attendees are encouraged to bring a blanket and chairs.

July 19...Float-N-Movie - Grab your floats and join us at Samford Pool for a poolside movie on Friday, July 19 at 8:30 p.m. Admission is FREE with a 2013 Splash Pass or \$2/person.

July 26...Friday Night Splash - Join the staff from the Auburn City Pools for freestyle swim, games, a cookout, music, and fun on Friday, July 26 from 6 - 8 p.m. It's fun for all ages! Admission is FREE with a 2013 Splash Pass or \$2/person.