

Open Line

A Monthly Newsletter for City of Auburn Citizens

February 2016

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City of Auburn



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2016 Citizen Survey to Be Mailed in February

Participation in the Annual Citizen Survey is one of the most important opportunities for citizen input. The citizen survey identifies areas in which the City is performing well and pinpoints areas where the City can improve. The survey is administered prior to the beginning of the City's budget process and is an important tool to help your city government target service delivery improvements and budget priorities.

Surveys will be mailed to randomly selected residents during the second week of February. If you receive a survey, please take a few moments to fill it out and return it in the postage-paid envelope. If you're unable to return the survey by mail you will receive a telephone follow-up as an additional way to participate. Your input is valuable and your individual responses are kept confidential. Please don't pass up this opportunity to provide feedback to your City government.

To see an archive of Annual Citizen Survey results please visit www.auburnalabama.org/survey. For more information on the Annual Citizen Survey, please call (334) 501-7260 or email webocm@auburnalabama.org.

Auburn's 2015 Rankings and Recognitions

Niche.com has released their 2016 K-12 School and District rankings, based on academics, health and safety, parent/student surveys, teacher quality, facility quality and resources, extracurricular activities and sports and fitness. Auburn City Schools is well represented in the rankings:

Auburn City Schools is ranked fifth of 131 public school districts in Alabama and 181st of 10,488 school districts nationally.

Auburn High School is ranked sixth out of 348 public high schools in Alabama and 474th out of 16,464 public high schools in the nation.

Auburn Junior High School was ranked sixth of 249 public middle schools in Alabama and 239th out of 15,430 public middle schools in the nation.

Cary Woods Elementary School was ranked eighth of 643 public elementary schools in Alabama, and 375th of 48,829 public elementary schools in the nation. Dean Road Elementary, Ogletree Elementary and Wrights Mill Road Elementary were all in the top 25 public elementary schools in Alabama.

- The Milken Institute named Auburn at number 10 in its report of "Best Performing Cities" for 2015, citing the 11th fastest job growth in the nation over a five-year period.
- Southern Business and Development Magazine named the City of Auburn Economic Development Department as the Best Economic Development Agency in Alabama.
- Auburn was named the third "Best Town to Raise a Family" in Alabama by Niche.com. Auburn ranks number one on Niche.com's overall list of "Best Towns in Alabama."
- Forbes ranked the Auburn-Opelika metro area number seven nationally on their list of the best small cities for jobs. Forbes considered 258 metropolitan statistical areas for the ranking.
- CollegeValuesOnline.com listed Auburn as #12 in a list of the 50 "Best Small College Towns"
- Tennis.com ranked Auburn's Yarbrough Tennis Center at number 13 on a list of the nation's top 20 college tennis facilities.
- The City of Auburn was named as an Honorable Mention in a 2015 list of the "100 Best Fleets in North America." The "Best Fleets" initiative was begun to recognize the "very best-of-the-best fleet operations in North America, judged by fleet professionals on 12 criteria "that are the universal drivers of change and excellence in any operation."

Updated 2016 Holiday Garbage, Trash, and Recycling Schedule

Citizens are encouraged to keep this schedule to use as a reference throughout the year.

New Year's Day Holiday

Monday, December 28	No change
Tuesday, December 29	No change
Wednesday, December 30	No change
Thursday, December 31	No change
Friday, January 1	Holiday

Martin Luther King Jr. Holiday

Monday, January 18	Holiday
Tuesday, January 19	Monday's route
Wednesday, January 20	Tuesday's route
Thursday, January 21	Wednesday's route
Friday, January 22	Thursday's route

Memorial Day Holiday

Monday, May 30	Holiday
Tuesday, May 31	Monday's route
Wednesday, June 1	Tuesday's route
Thursday, June 2	Wednesday's route
Friday, June 3	Thursday's route

Independence Day Holiday

Monday, July 4	Holiday
Tuesday, July 5	Monday's route
Wednesday, July 6	Tuesday's route
Thursday, July 7	Wednesday's route
Friday, July 8	Thursday's route

Labor Day Holiday

Monday, September 5	Holiday
Tuesday, September 6	Monday's route
Wednesday, September 7	Tuesday's route
Thursday, September 8	Wednesday's route
Friday, September 9	Thursday's route

Veterans Day

Monday, November 7	No change
Tuesday, November 8	No change
Wednesday, November 9	No change
Thursday, November 10	No change
Friday, November 11	Holiday

Thanksgiving Holiday

Monday, November 21	No change
Tuesday, November 22	No change
Wednesday, November 23	Wednesday's and Thursday's route
Thursday, November 24	Holiday
Friday, November 25	Holiday

Christmas Holiday (Sunday)

Monday, December 26	Holiday
Tuesday, December 27	Monday's route
Wednesday, December 28	Tuesday's route
Thursday, December 29	Wednesday's route
Friday, December 30	Thursday's route

January 2017 New Year's Day (Sunday)

Monday, January 2	Holiday
Tuesday, January 3	Monday's route
Wednesday, January 4	Tuesday's route
Thursday, January 5	Wednesday's route
Friday, January 6	Thursday's route



MEETING SCHEDULE FEBRUARY

- Cemeteries Advisory Board**, 4 p.m., Harris Center, 425 Perry Street
- Parks & Recreation Advisory Board**, 11:45 a.m., Harris Center, 425 Perry Street
- City Council**, 7 p.m., Council Chamber, 141 North Ross Street
- Committee of the Whole**, 6:55 p.m., Council Chamber, 141 North Ross Street
- Board of Zoning Adjustment**, 4:30 p.m., Council Chamber, 141 North Ross Street
- Tree Commission**, 11:30 a.m., Chamber of Commerce Conference Room, 714 E. Glenn Avenue
- Greenspace Advisory Board**, Noon, Harris Center, 425 Perry Street
- Historic Preservation Commission**, 4 p.m., DSB Conference Room, 171 North Ross Street
- Board of Education**, 6 p.m., AHS Multi-Media Room, 405 South Dean Road
- Planning Commission**, 5 p.m., Council Chamber, 141 North Ross Street
- Library Board**, 2 p.m., Library Conference Room, 749 East Thach Avenue
- Committee of the Whole**, 6:55 p.m., Council Chamber, 141 North Ross Street
- City Council**, 7 p.m., Council Chamber, 141 North Ross Street
- Water Works Board**, 4 p.m., Water Board Conference Room, 1501 West Samford Avenue

Meeting times and places are subject to change.

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

Ward 5 Public Meeting

Ward 5 Councilperson Lynda Tremaine will hold her monthly public meeting for Ward 5 residents on Monday, February 1 at 5:30 p.m. at St. Dunstan's Episcopal Church in downtown Auburn.

All Auburn residents are welcome, but the meeting will focus on issues of interest to Ward 5 residents. To find out what voting ward you live in and who represents you on the Auburn City Council, go to <http://www.auburnalabama.org/maps/Voting-Ward>.

upCOMING EVENTS

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

Auburn Public Library

For more information about these and other library programs, please call 501-3190.

FINANCIAL FITNESS FEBRUARY

Couponing 101 – Tuesday, February 9 at 6:30 p.m. Join us for a fun hour of learning basic couponing techniques.

7 Financial Mistakes and How to Avoid Them – Tuesday, February 23, 6:30 p.m. – Join us for an exciting and informative hour with Lauren Bowling of the blog L. Bee and the Money Tree. Bowling has been featured in Forbes, Redbook, and Woman's Day.

STORYTIME

Baby Time – Tuesdays, at 10:00 a.m. and 1:00 p.m., for ages birth through 24 months.

Toddler Time – Wednesdays, 10:00 a.m. and 1:00 p.m., for ages 18 months through 26 months.

Preschool Time – Thursdays, 10:00 a.m. and 1:00 p.m., for ages 3 through 5.

Fractured Fairy Tales - Wednesday, February 3 at 3:30 p.m., featuring *Snoring Beauty* by Sudipta Bardhan-Quallen.

Family Storytime – Sunday, February 28 at 4:00 p.m.



CRAFT-A-PALOOZA

Enjoy crafting time with your little ones on Saturdays during the month of February, as we put out our extra storytime craft projects for assembly. Ladybugs, rainclouds, or dinosaurs – there's no telling what you'll get to create!

BOOK GROUPS

Forever YA Book Club - Tuesday, February 16 at 7:00 p.m. at the Auburn Public Library, featuring *The Royal We* by Heather Cocks and Jessica Morgan.

Show & Tell Book Group - Monday, February 15 at 4:00 p.m. (Afternoon Group) and 6:30 p.m. (Evening Group) at the Auburn Public Library. Everyone is free to read any book(s) – fiction or non-fiction – and present it to the group.

Read & Reflect Book Group – Tuesday, February 23 at 10:00 a.m. at the Harris Senior Center, featuring *Wild: From Lost to Found on the Pacific Crest Trail* by Cheryl Strayed.

GENEALOGY 101

Tap Roots - Thursday, February 18 at 3:00 p.m. – Happy 52nd birthday to the Genealogical Society of East Alabama! Learn about their quarterly publication *Tap Roots*, which contains local resources such as church records, newspaper excerpts, and local histories.

Parks and Recreation

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

Sports Registration for this month:

- **Youth Volleyball:** Online registration begins Monday, February 1 and ends Monday, February 29. A one-day walk-in registration will be held on Tuesday, February 23 at Dean Road Recreation Center from 6 – 7 p.m.
- **Adult Soccer:** Registration ends Friday, February 5.
- **Youth Track and Field:** Online registration begins Tuesday, February 16 and ends Friday, March 11. A one-day walk-in registration will be held on Tuesday, February 23 at Dean Road Recreation Center from 6 – 7 p.m.
- **Cooper Volleyball Camp:** Held on Saturday, February 27 at Frank Brown Recreation Center this camp is designed for girl's grades 3 – 7 and will provide and introduction to fundamental concepts and drills. Call Frank Brown Recreation Center at (334) 501 - 2962 for more information.

For more information about any of our spring sports or online registration, please call Dean Road Recreation Center at (334) 501 – 2950.

3rd Annual Empty Bowls – The 3rd Annual Empty Bowls dinner will be held on Saturday, February 13 at the Denson Drive Recreation Center in Opelika. With the purchase of a tickets, patrons will receive their choice of a handmade bowl created by artists at the Denson Recreation Center and Dean Road Ceramics Studio, as well as their choice of a soup made by a local restaurant. Every ticket purchased is a direct donation to the Food Bank of East Alabama. For more information about the event or regarding tickets, please contact Art Education Specialist, Cari Cleckler, at 334.501.2944 or cleckler@auburnalabama.org.

Save the Date! – Spring Quarter Registration begins on Monday, February 1 and ends on Monday, February 29.

Jan Dempsey Community Arts Center Gallery Schedule

The Photo Invitational 2016 will be held January 1 – 29. The Photo Invitational 2016 is an annual photography exhibition

Winter Invitational: Paint exhibition will be held beginning January 11 – February 2. The Paint exhibition will feature work in a variety of personal styles and art materials utilizing specific colors of paint. All exhibitions feature works by regional artists and photographers and are FREE and open to the public weekdays from 8 a.m. – 5 p.m.

Scale Back Alabama-Lee County: #Drop10LeeCo – *Weigh-in Week is January 25-31, 2016* Scale Back Alabama (SBA) is a statewide weight-loss contest designed to encourage Alabamians to have fun while getting healthy. Auburn Parks and Recreation is excited to partner with SBA again this year and encourage Auburn citizens to, "Have fun while getting healthy!" Enjoy weekly activities for all ages and interests throughout the ten-week Scale Back campaign. All events are free and designed to keep you motivated throughout the 10-week campaign. Weigh-in Week will be held at various sites around Lee County, including Auburn Parks and Recreation facilities, the week of January 25-31. Pick up a detailed schedule of events at weigh-in and be sure to visit www.facebook.com/scalebackleeco for details.



The BIG Event is a one-day student-run service project sponsored by Auburn University's Office of Student Involvement. The BIG Event serves as a way for Auburn students to give back to the surrounding communities that offer continual support to the university in so many ways. This project is not based on financial need, but it is rather a way of saying thank you!

2016 Jobsite Request Form

If your business, church, household, or organization would like to request student volunteers for **The BIG Event on Saturday, March 5, 2016**, please fill out the following information and return in a separate envelope addressed to the following by **Friday, February 5th, 2016**.

**255 Duncan Drive
3130 AU Student Center
Auburn, AL 36849
ATTN: The BIG Event**

*For more information visit www.auburn.edu/leadership or contact the SIO office at 334-844-4233.

Name: _____

Jobsite Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Phone Number: _____ Email Address: _____

Alternate Phone Number: _____

Are you a United States Veteran? If yes, what branch of the military? _____

When/How long did you serve? _____

Any other details of your service? _____

Brief description of work requested: _____

