

Open Line

A Monthly Newsletter for City of Auburn Citizens

March 2003

City Council

Bill Ham, Jr., Mayor
501-7260

bham@auburnalabama.org

Verlinda J. White, Ward 1
887-3112
VERRAC55@aol.com

Sheila H. Eckman, Ward 1
821-9666
ecko@mindspring.com

Roberta Jackel, Ward 2
887-6233
821-8221
robertajackel@bellsouth.net

Logan B. Gray, Ward 2
887-5126

K. Ted Wilson, Ward 3
887-9901
ted@wilsoninvestmentgroup.com

Dick Phelan, Ward 3
887-2071
dickphelan@yahoo.com

Carolyn G. Mathews, Ward 4
821-0161
carmat@prodigy.net

Gene Dulaney, Ward 4
887-7908
887-2721
gdulaney@auburnbank.com

Open Line

Open Line is produced by
Office of the
City Manager

144 Tichenor Ave., Ste. 1
Auburn, AL 36830
phone: 334-501-7260
fax: 334-501-7299

web:

www.auburnalabama.org

email:

dwatson@auburnalabama.org



City of Auburn



Printed on
Recycled Paper

City To Install More Efficient Traffic Lights

The City Council has approved a contract with Southern Company Energy Solutions to upgrade all traffic signals in the City Auburn with brighter, more energy efficient bulbs. The new bulbs will be installed in all 800 signal heads at the City's 48 signalized intersections. The lights, called Light Emitting Diode (LED) lamps, are brighter than traditional traffic lights, making them easier to see for motorists and pedestrians.

LED lamps are environmentally friendly because they use less energy than incandescent traffic lights. Currently, it takes approximately 50,000 watts per year to power the City's traffic lights. The LED lamps will reduce the energy requirements to an estimated 11,000 watts per year. For the City of Auburn, this translates into a savings of around \$20,000 per year on utility costs alone. The savings in utilities will be applied to the cost over a period of time and will result in long-term savings to the City.

Besides the significant cost savings, LED lamps are replaced less frequently, reducing the costs of maintenance. Incandescent traffic lights are replaced three times per year. Comparatively, LED lamps require replacement only once every ten years. This will reduce the traffic disruptions associated with bulb replacement. Staff time currently spent replacing traffic lights will be available for other projects.

Residents are asked to be patient during the installation process because each intersection will be temporarily out of service with Police directing traffic. Retrofitting the existing incandescent traffic lights with LED lamps benefits the City by enhancing traffic safety through better visibility and by producing a significant cost savings.



More energy efficient LED lamps will be installed in all City traffic lights.

Storm Water Workshop

The City of Auburn will host a workshop for developers and engineers outlining EPA's Phase II Storm Water Regulations and how it applies to these professionals. Officials from the Auburn Public Works Department and the Alabama Department of Environmental Management (ADEM) will discuss permitting issues along with the other requirements of Phase II. The new regulations will impact most new commercial development in Auburn. Another topic of discussion will be the Storm Water Design Manual the City developed to guide local professionals in the design of storm water conveyance systems. This workshop is part of a public education process required of municipalities under the Phase II regulations. For more information about these regulations, contact Jeff Ramsey or Tim Logiotatos at 501-3000.



Join Us at the Library...

In honor of Women's History Month, the Auburn Public Library presents a special program conducted by Dr. Joan Stidham Nist, professor emerita of Auburn University. In her presentation, Dr. Nist tells of her experiences living in Pearl Harbor, Hawaii on that "date which will live in infamy" and on the home front during the War. She relates the shock felt as she watched the destruction, describes the months of fear and uncertainty that followed, and discusses the first mass fingerprinting of U.S. citizens. Dr. Nist also details stateside experiences upon return, from rationing to working in a small war plant. During her presentation, Dr. Nist devotes special attention to the impact these events had on American women. Displays include original prints of Navy photos of the Pearl Harbor destruction and propaganda papers dropped over Japan in 1944 and 1945. Please join us in the Hollifield Room of the Auburn Public Library on Tuesday, March 18, at 6:30 p.m. for this special event.



U.S.S. Arizona Memorial at Pearl Harbor.

JOIN OUR WINNING TEAM!

The City of Auburn is currently accepting applications for

Student Firefighters \$5.46/Hour

The duties involve extensive physical activity including heavy lifting and moving, operating in hazardous environments, building, grounds and equipment maintenance, use of a variety of hand and power tools and equipment, and working as part of a directly supervised team. Student Firefighters are required to drive fire apparatus and other vehicles to perform assigned duties.

This challenging job could help finance your college education. Tuition reimbursement and housing are available.

Required Special Qualifications: Must be enrolled as a full-time student in an accredited post-secondary learning institution, maintain a 2.0 average and make regular progress toward a degree. Must be willing to work varying shifts, including nights, weekdays and weekends, with the occasional requirement to work weekday shifts.

Applicants who are interested may apply at the City of Auburn Human Resources Department in City Hall or the Alabama State Employment Office. The City of Auburn is an equal opportunity employer.

Reading Programs for Children



Preschool Storytime

for children ages 3 – 5 meets on Tuesdays from 1:30 – 2:00 p.m. and on Wednesdays from 10:00 – 10:30 a.m. at the Auburn Public Library.

The themes for March are: 3/4 & 5- Animal Homes, 3/11 & 12- Wind, 3/18 & 19- Balls, 3/25 & 26- Silly Day.



Toddler Time

for children ages 18 months to 3 years is held every

Thursday morning from 10:00 – 10:30 a.m. at the Auburn Public Library. March's themes are: 3/6- House, 3/13- Wind, 3/20- Balls, 3/27- Silly Day.

Need Income Tax Forms?

State and federal income tax forms are available in the Auburn Public Library at 749 East Thach Avenue as long as supplies last.

Auburn Training Connection

The City of Auburn, along with community leaders from industry, education, and government, has established a new



workforce development organization called the Auburn Training Connection (ATC). Research conducted by the Auburn Workforce Development Taskforce last year found that between 30 to 40 percent of local high school graduates do not attend four-year colleges and need a career route to good paying jobs while many local industries have had difficulties finding skilled and trainable labor. The ATC seeks to link those individuals with local industrial and manufacturing firms.

The ATC's mission is to create a workforce development system that will improve the area workforce by providing basic skills training necessary to support Auburn industry and manufacturing and enhance industrial career opportunities for the citizens of Auburn, Lee County, and the surrounding area. The ATC Training Center, currently located at the Auburn Center for Developing Industries on Pumphrey Avenue, will offer certifications, apprenticeship programs, and a school-to-work program.

The ATC is comprised of individuals from area industries, Auburn City Schools, City of Auburn, Auburn University, Auburn Chamber of Commerce, Alabama Industrial and Development Training, and the Alabama State Employment Service. Currently, the ATC is in the process of establishing itself as an Alabama not-for-profit organization and will be governed by a seven-member Board of Directors consisting of representatives from local industry, the City, City Schools, and Auburn University. For more information about the Auburn Training Connection, please contact Jennifer Norton at 501-7270.

Change to Metered Parking

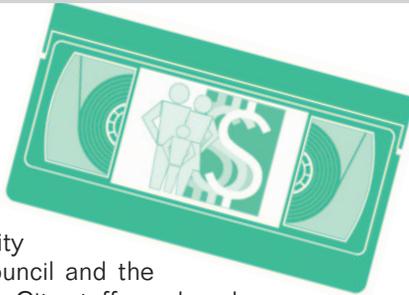
At its January 21 meeting, the City Council unanimously approved an ordinance that limits metered parking to two consecutive hours. This change only affects spaces in parking meter zone A. Zone A includes all street level metered parking in the Downtown Parking Lot, located within that certain city block bounded on the north by Tichenor Avenue, on the south by East Magnolia Avenue, on the east by Gay Street, and on the west by North College Street. Public safety personnel will chalk the tires of cars parked in those areas to enforce this ordinance. The metered spaces with longer calibrations on Wright Street and the Wright Street parking lot will not be affected.

This change comes in response to requests from downtown merchants concerned about the practice of "meter-feeding." The extended use of parking meters by the same person limits the number of spaces available to people wanting to shop or eat in the downtown area. By limiting parking to two consecutive hours, it is hoped a higher turnover rate for parking spaces will allow residents and visitors more opportunities to enjoy downtown Auburn. The price of metered parking remains 25 cents an hour. Fines for violating this ordinance are \$5.00 for the first offense, \$20.00 for the second violation, and \$40.00 for the third violation. Metered parking is enforced between the hours of 8:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m. on weekdays.



Check it Out...

The Auburn Public Library has recently added "**The Dollars and Sense of Preserving Community Character**" to its video collection. This film focuses on the economic, social, and environmental benefits of preserving community character. Members of the City Council and the Planning Commission as well as various City staff members have viewed the video and recommend it to interested citizens. Individuals with a valid Auburn library card may borrow the video for up to seven days.



Board Vacancies

Two vacancies on the **Library Board** will be announced at the March 4 City Council meeting and will be filled at the April 1 City Council meeting. One incumbent eligible for reappointment.

Two vacancies on the **Historic Preservation Commission** will be announced at the March 18 City Council meeting and will be filled at the April 15 City Council meeting. One incumbent eligible for reappointment.

One vacancy on the **Board of Education** will be announced at the April 1 City Council meeting and will be filled at the May 6 City Council meeting. Incumbent eligible for reappointment.

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

MEETING SCHEDULE

Cemetery Advisory Board - March 3, 4:00 PM, Dean Road Recreation Center.

Park & Recreation Advisory Board - March 3, 6:00 PM, Dean Road Recreation Center.

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

Tree Commission - March 5, 4:00 PM, City Hall Annex.

Board of Zoning Adjustment - March 5, 2003, 4:30 PM, Council Chamber.

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

Greenspace Advisory Board - March 11, 11:00 AM, City Hall Annex.

Historic Preservation Committee - March 11, 3:00 PM, Jan Dempsey Community Arts Center.

Board of Education - March 11, 6:00 PM, AHS Multi-Media Room.

Planning Commission - March 13, 5:00 PM, Council Chamber.

City Council - March 18, 7:30 PM, Council Chamber.

Library Board - March 20, 10:00 AM, Library Board Room.

Bike Committee - March 25, 7:00 PM, Development Services Building, 171 N. Ross Street.

City Council - April 1, 7:30 PM, Council Chamber.

Tree Commission - April 2, 4:00 PM, City Hall Annex.

Board of Zoning Adjustment - April 2, 4:30 PM, Council Chamber.

– Meeting times and places are subject to change –

Safety Tip: Leave Vents Open!



Do not cover or close any of the attic or crawl space vents on your house. These areas need ventilation to properly cool the attic and reduce moisture, mold and mildew in these spaces.

City Management

Douglas J. Watson
501-7261
City Manager
dwatson@auburnalabama.org

Wendy L. Hassett
501-7262
Assistant City Manager
whassett@auburnalabama.org

Andrea E. Jackson
501-7220
Director of Finance
ajackson@auburnalabama.org

Jeffery L. Ramsey
501-3000
Director of Public Works
jramsey@auburnalabama.org

Phillip Dunlap
501-7270
Director of Economic Development
pdunlap@auburnalabama.org

Steven A. Reeves
501-7240
Director of Human Resources
sreeves@auburnalabama.org

O. Clyde Prather
501-3110
Director of Public Safety
cprather@auburnalabama.org

Robert J. Juster
501-3040
Director of Planning
bjuster@auburnalabama.org

Rebecca O. Richardson
887-4930
Director of Parks and Recreation
brichardson@auburnalabama.org

Margie B. Huffman
501-3190
Director of City Library
mhuffman@auburnalabama.org

Alfred J. Davis
501-3080
Director of Environmental Services
adavis@auburnalabama.org

James C. Buston, III
501-7200
Director of Information Technology
jbuston@auburnalabama.org

Rex B. Griffin, Jr.
501-3060
Director of Water and Sewer
rgriffin@auburnalabama.org

Joe S. Bailey
501-3180
Municipal Judge
jbailey@auburnalabama.org

• • • • •

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

up COMING EVENTS



Salmagundi, offered to students in grades K-5, will meet on March 5 from 3:30 – 4:30 p.m. in the Youth Services area at the Auburn Public Library. The theme will be "Women in History."



Young Adult Coffeehouse will meet March 6 from 6:30 – 7:30 p.m. at the Auburn Public Library. This event is for students in grades 6-12 and the theme is "YA Authors."



First Friday for Homeschoolers will meet on March 7 from 10:00 a.m. – 11:00 a.m. at the Auburn Public Library. This event is for all ages, and the theme is "Learning Stories through Sign." For more information, contact Eve Kneeland at 501-3196.

AppleBell Productions will present *The Good Doctor*, Neil Simon's comedic take on short stories by Anton Chekhov March 7 & 8 at 7:30 p.m., March 9 at 2:00 p.m., March 14 & 15 at 7:30 p.m., and March 16 at 2:00 p.m. All performances will be held at the Jan Dempsey Community Arts Center. Tickets are \$10 for adults, \$7 for seniors or students, and \$5 for children. For more information, please contact the director at 821-4475 or appelbc@mindspring.com.



The Auburn Community Orchestra will perform March 8 at 7:30 p.m. at the Telfair Peet Theatre on the Auburn University campus. The concert, entitled "England, Old and New," will feature music by Walton, Rutter, and Elgar. For more information, please contact Howard Goldstein at 844-3167.

The **RPG Book Club**, for students in grades 6-12, will meet on March 11 from 4:00 – 5:00 p.m. at the Auburn Public Library to discuss Frank Herbert's Dune chronicles. For more information, contact Eve Kneeland at 501-3196.



A **Puppet Show** will be presented March 12 at 3:30 p.m. at the Auburn Public Library. This free event is for children of all ages.

The **USTA Auburn Spring Tennis Classic** tournament will host men's and women's singles and doubles events March 14-16 at the Samford Avenue Tennis Center. Entry deadline is March 12. For official entry information, call the Samford Avenue Tennis Center at 887-4935.

A **Pre-Season Soccer Mini Camp** for ages 5-18 will be held on March 14 from 5:00 - 7:30 p.m. at the Auburn Soccer Fields. The cost is \$10.00 and participants may pre-register at the Dean Road Recreation Center. For more information, please call the Soccer Office at 887-4930.

A free **Research Mysteries @ Your Library** will be held from 9:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m. on March 15 for students in grade 5 – 8. This class is an introduction to reference materials and the Internet. Pre-registration is required. For more information or to register your child, contact Eve Kneeland at 501-3196.

Celebrate **Women's History Month** with the Auburn Public Library on March 18 at 6:30 p.m. in the Hollifield Room. Dr. Joan Stidham Nist will tell of her experiences living in Hawaii on December 7, 1941 and about the impact of World War II on women. Admission is free. For more information, contact the Auburn Public Library at 501-3190.

The **4th Annual Bike Bash** will be held March 29 starting at 8:00 a.m. in front of the Auburn University Student Activities Building on Roosevelt Drive. This year's Bike Bash will be held in conjunction with the Auburn Flyers Bike Weekend, which is a two-day S.E.C. cycling sanctioned event. Join Auburn bicyclists and enjoy organized bike rides, demonstrations, informational booths, and live music. T-shirts will be provided for all registered participants. The registration fee in advance and on the day of the event is \$5 for children up to age 15 and \$10 for those 16 and over. All other activities are free to the public. For more information, contact Dee Watson at 887-4931.

Auditions for AppleBell's Early Summer Show will be held March 31 and April 3 from 4:00 – 6:00 p.m. at the Jan Dempsey Community Arts Center. Auditions are for actors and backstage crew. Contact Jessica Higginbotham at 887-2627 or higgibr@auburn.edu for more information.



The **Auburn Chamber Music Society** welcomes the Quartetto di Venezia for a concert on April 2 at 7:30 p.m. at Goodwin Music Hall on the Auburn University campus. The program will include selections from the works of Haydn, Boccherini, Puccini, and Beethoven. For more information, contact the ACMS at 826-2797.

Auburn CityFest 2003, an all-day festival bringing music, arts & crafts, great food, and exciting children's activities to Kiesel Park, will be held April 26. Applications are now being considered for volunteers, corporate sponsors, vendors, artists, and craftspersons. To access the appropriate applications or to find out more about the festival, visit www.auburnalabama.org/cityfest or contact Ali Lloyd-Wallace or Sandy Estes at 887-4930.

