

# Open Line

A Monthly Newsletter for City of Auburn Citizens

May 2009

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City of Auburn



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## Congressman Mike Rogers Announces Grant for Auburn Fire Division

Recently, Congressman Mike Rogers notified the City of Auburn Public Safety Department - Fire Division of a grant award from the Department of Homeland Security totaling \$76,986. The grant will provide 90% federal funding for a variety of equipment purchases, with the remaining 10% of funding provided by the City. Grant fund equipment purchases include:

- **Portable breathing air compressor** - The portable breathing air compressor will provide the Auburn Fire Division with the equipment necessary to refill firefighters' air tanks on-site in an emergency situation. Currently, empty air tanks have to be transported back to the fire station to be refilled. The portable compressor also enables firefighters to provide a direct air line to fire suits. This capability will be beneficial for firefighters in confined spaces where it would be difficult to maneuver when carrying a portable air tank.
- **Specialized communications equipment** - Specialized communications equipment will be utilized in hazardous conditions where typical communications equipment could cause a spark and ignite combustible gases in the air.
- **Voice amplification** - In a fire emergency, officers must be able to communicate with firefighters and issue orders. Many times, communications are lost due to noise and interference from the firefighter's facemask. The addition of voice amplification allows officers on-scene to communicate with firefighters while those firefighters are wearing their masks and suits.
- **Rapid Intervention Team (RIT) packs** - Rapid Intervention Team (RIT) packs enable rescuers to respond to firefighters who might be overcome by smoke or heat while responding to an emergency situation.



In a previously released statement, Congressman Rogers said, "Lee County's first responders are our first line of defense. I congratulate the men and women of the Auburn Public Safety Department, Fire Division for receiving this grant and hope it will ultimately help increase the safety for all local citizens."

Mayor Bill Ham, Jr. noted that Congressman Rogers is a "tireless advocate for the safety of Auburn's citizens."

(continued on page 2)

## FEMA Floodplain Maps and Flood Insurance Study Update

*Property Owners in Floodplain Encouraged to Contact Insurance Agent About Flood Insurance*

Lee County is in the process of updating its Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) Floodplain Maps and Flood Insurance Study. The City of Auburn's FEMA Floodplain Maps and Flood Insurance Study will also be updated as part of the countywide map modernization project. Printed copies of the proposed maps are available at the Development Services Building, located in the Douglas J. Watson Municipal Complex on Ross Street. Maps will be available for public review Monday - Friday from 7:30 a.m. - 4:30 p.m. Additional information about the FEMA project, as well as an interactive map that will help you determine if your property is located within FEMA's proposed floodplain, is available online at [www.auburnalabama.org/fema](http://www.auburnalabama.org/fema).

For more information, visit the City's FEMA website at [www.auburnalabama.org/fema](http://www.auburnalabama.org/fema) or contact the City of Auburn Public Works Department by phone at 501-3000 or by e-mail at [webpw@auburnalabama.org](mailto:webpw@auburnalabama.org).

## Rogers Announces Grant

(continued from page 1)

He went on to say, "Our citizens are extremely fortunate to have Congressman Rogers looking out for their best interests in Washington. We appreciate his support in obtaining this grant and look forward to the opportunity to further expand our Fire Division's capabilities. These funds will enable us to continue to provide exceptional public safety services to our citizens."

Monies saved on equipment purchases made with grant funds may be used for other fire-related equipment purchases.

For more information, please contact the City of Auburn Public Safety Department - Administration Division at 501-3110 or visit our website at [www.auburnalabama.org](http://www.auburnalabama.org).

## 11th Annual Mayor's Memorial Day Breakfast

The City of Auburn and the Auburn Veterans Committee cordially invite citizens to attend the 11th Annual Mayor's Memorial Day Breakfast on Monday, May 25 at 8 a.m. at The Hotel at Auburn University and Dixon Conference Center. This annual event is held to honor the United States Military and 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.



Auburn citizen Pete Turnham will be the guest of honor and the recipient of the 2009 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. Turnham, a decorated combat veteran of World War II, has made a number of contributions to the Auburn community, including 40 years of service in the Alabama House of Representatives.

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. During the ceremony, Ross Street will be closed from Glenn Avenue to Harper Avenue to allow parking for the disabled.

Please join us on Monday, May 25 as we honor the men and women who have courageously served our country. For more information, please visit [www.auburnalabama.org/veterans](http://www.auburnalabama.org/veterans) or contact the City of Auburn Economic Development Department at 501-7270.

## Board Vacancies

- One vacancy on the **Board of Education** will be filled at the May 19 City Council meeting.
- One vacancy on the **Indian Pines Recreation Authority** will be filled at the June 16 City Council meeting.



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

## Memorial Day Holiday Schedule



City Hall will be closed Monday, May 25 in observance of Memorial Day. Public Safety services, including Police, Fire, and Communications, will remain on their regular schedules. The collection of garbage, trash, and recycling the week of May 25 - 29 will change as follows:

### Normal Collection Day

Monday  
Tuesday  
Wednesday  
Thursday

### Holiday Pick-Up Schedule

Tuesday, May 26  
Wednesday, May 27  
Thursday, May 28  
Friday, May 29

Collection carts and recycled materials must be placed at the curb by 6 a.m. on your holiday pick-up 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.

## MEETING SCHEDULE

# MAY

- 1 Tree Commission**, 11:30 a.m., Chamber of Commerce Conference Room
- 4 Cemeteries Advisory Board**, 4 p.m., Dean Road Recreation Center
- 5 Parks & Recreation Advisory Board**, 5:15 p.m., Dean Road Recreation Center
- City Council**, 7 p.m., Council Chamber
- 6 Board of Zoning Adjustment**, 4:30 p.m., Council Chamber
- 12 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
- 14 Planning Commission**, 5 p.m., Council Chamber
- 19 City Council**, 7 p.m., Council Chamber
- 21 Water Works Board**, 4 p.m., Water Board Conference Room
- 26 Bicycle Committee**, 7 p.m., Development Services Building
- 28 Library Board**, 8 a.m., Library Board Room

**Meeting times and places are subject to change.**

For more information, including a map of City meeting locations, please visit [www.auburnalabama.org/boards](http://www.auburnalabama.org/boards).

# 10th Anniversary Bike Bash

Saturday, May 2



The City of Auburn and the Auburn Bicycle Committee will host the 10th Annual Bike Bash on Saturday, May 2 at Auburn High School. Ten years ago, Bike Bash began as a community event designed to inform citizens about bicycle safety and promote biking as a fun and healthy leisure activity.

This year's event features bicycle rides of varying distances for beginners through advanced riders. The first ride begins at 8 a.m. Free bicycle safety inspections, helmet fittings, and information booths will be available, as well as live music, door prizes, and a demonstration by the Ogletree Elementary School All for One Allstars Unicycle Club. Don't miss your chance to win the special 10th Anniversary Bike Bash quilt.

Visit [www.auburnalabama.org/cycle](http://www.auburnalabama.org/cycle) for more information or to register, or contact the Dean Road Recreation Center at 501-2930. Participants are encouraged to pre-register.

Bike Bash would not be possible without the generous support of our sponsors, including: Auburn Cardiovascular, the Auburn Civitan Club, The Bike Shop, Briggs & Stratton Corporation, East Alabama Medical Center, Franklin Tire and Auto, Golden's Bicycles, The Gourmet Tiger, Kinnucan's, Niffer's, and Prestige Properties.

## Registration Information

	Pre-Registration (ends April 28)	Day of Registration
Youth 12 & under	\$8	\$10
Adults 13 & older	\$10	\$12
Family Rate*	\$25	\$30

\*The family rate is for two or more persons living in a household. Limit, four t-shirts per family.

## 17th Annual Fishing Rodeo Sponsored by Evans Realty



Join the City of Auburn Parks and Recreation Department for the 17th Annual Fishing Rodeo, sponsored by Evans Realty, on Saturday, May 16 from 8 - 11 a.m. at the lake at Auburn Technology Park South. Prizes will be awarded for the biggest and smallest fish caught. There is a catch limit of five fish per child. The first 200 children in attendance will receive a free t-shirt and bait, courtesy of Evans Realty.

Registration is \$5 per child, payable to the City of Auburn. This event is open to children 12 and under. Children must be accompanied by an adult at all times. For more information, please contact the City of Auburn Parks and Recreation Department at 501-2930.

## Auburn CityFest 2009 Sponsors



The Auburn CityFest Committee and the City of Auburn would like to take this opportunity to thank our sponsors for their support of Auburn CityFest 2009. Without their support, this FREE community event would not be possible.

### Presenting Sponsor

The Opelika-Auburn News

### Official Sponsors

Academy Sports + Outdoors • Auburn Arts Association • AuburnBank • Auburn Network • Auburn-Opelika Tourism Bureau • Auburn Pediatric Dentistry • Commerce Networks • Creative Habitats Landscaping • Fountainview Mansion • Jubilee Farm • Kate FM • McQuick Printing Company • Niffer's Place • Praise 88.7 • Shirtworks • Space Walk of Auburn • Terra Cotta Café • The Rental Center • WRBL News 3

### Patron Sponsors

Compass Bank • East Alabama Medical Center • Fun Carts of Opelika • Lexington Hotel University Convention Center • Superior Portables • Wachovia

## Street Sign Replacement Project

In November 2007, the City Council authorized a resolution for the purchase of aluminum street signs for the City's Street Sign Replacement Project. The project calls for the replacement of the existing concrete posts denoting street names with new blue, reflective signs. The height and reflectivity of the new signs will make them more visible to motorists, especially at night.



City crews began installing the new signs on streets in the downtown area. The project will proceed outward from downtown until all of the old concrete post street signs have been replaced. Additionally, as new streets are added or old concrete posts are damaged, crews will install the new signs.

For more information, please contact the City of Auburn Public Works Department - Traffic Division at 501-3024.

## Celebrate National Bike Month™



May is National Bike Month™ and the City of Auburn and the Auburn Bicycle Committee invite you to join in the celebration. As Alabama's only Bicycle-Friendly Community, as designated by the League of American Bicyclists, the City of Auburn boasts over 32 miles of bicycle and multi-use paths for citizens to enjoy. An additional 135 miles of bicycle and multi-use paths and lanes are proposed under the Bicycle Network, the City's comprehensive bicycle plan.

This year's Bike Month activities include the 10th Annual Bike Bash, a proclamation signing by Mayor Bill Ham, Jr., and a dedication ceremony for the newly constructed Samford Avenue bike lanes. In celebration of the 10th Anniversary of Bike Bash, students from Auburn University's Associate Professor Christopher McNulty's sculpture class have created kinetic bicycle sculptures made out of bicycle parts and other materials. Citizens will have a chance to vote for the "Best in Show," to be displayed at Auburn City Hall throughout the month of May. The remaining sculptures will be on display in the 3D Arts Building Gallery on the Auburn University campus. The gallery, located at 1161 West Samford Avenue, is free to the public and open Monday-Friday, 8 a.m. - 6 p.m. Sculptures will be on display May 4 - 29.

For more information on Bike Month activities, be sure to visit our website at [www.auburnalabama.org/cycle](http://www.auburnalabama.org/cycle).

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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@auburnlabama.org](mailto:openline@auburnlabama.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.



**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.

- **Spring Invitational**, April 6 - May 9. New works by area artists and photographers.
- **11th Annual Juried Art Exhibition**, May 15 - June 30. A competitive exhibition open to artists and craft persons in Lee County.

**Tuesdays in May...Brown Bag Lunch Series at the Auburn Public Library** - Join the Auburn Public Library for their Brown Bag Lunch Series on the first and second Tuesday of the month from Noon - 1 p.m. Bring your lunch and enjoy speakers on a variety of topics. For more information, including a list of topics, visit [www.auburnlabama.org/library](http://www.auburnlabama.org/library) or contact the Reference Desk at 501-3195.



**Wednesdays in May...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 May...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.



**Register by May 1...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 May 16 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 May 1. For more information, contact Melissa Weldon at 501-2946.

**May 2...Author Sara DuBose at the Auburn Public Library** - Alabama author Sara DuBose will sign books and read from her new novel, *A Promise for Tomorrow*, May 2 at 2 p.m. at the Auburn Public Library. For more information, contact the Reference Desk at 501-3195.

**Available May 4...Parks and Recreation Summer Brochure** - The Parks and Recreation Summer Brochure will be available at City facilities and online at [www.auburnlabama.org/parks](http://www.auburnlabama.org/parks) beginning May 4. Registration for summer camps and programs will be held weekdays from 8 a.m. - 5 p.m. at the Dean Road Recreation Center beginning May 4 - May 29. For more information, contact the Dean Road Recreation Center at 501-2930.

**May 4 - 13...Focus on Exploring Visual Arts (FEVA)** - Focus on Exploring Visual Arts is a new community arts education program designed for the young artist who is serious about taking the next step toward a more complete art education. This two week session will focus on textile techniques. Students will take a tour around the world through weaving, printing, and design with fabric and fibers. The cost is \$60 for the session and \$10 for materials. Space is limited to 15 students. For more information or to register, contact the Jan Dempsey Community Arts Center at 501-2963.

**May 6...Magic Tree House Club** - Youth in grades K - 5 are invited to join the Auburn Public Library for the Magic Tree House Club May 6 at 3:30 p.m. This month's featured book title is *Dark Day in the Deep Sea*. For more information, contact Youth Services at 501-3196.

**May 7...Young Adult Coffeehouse** - Youth in grades 6 - 12 are invited to join the Auburn Public Library for Young Adult Coffeehouse May 7 at 6:30 p.m. This month's topic focuses Auburn High School clubs. For more information, contact Youth Services at 501-3196.

**May 12...Puppet Show** - Youth of all ages are invited to join the Auburn Public Library for a Mother's Day-themed puppet show May 12 at 3:30 p.m. For more information, contact Youth Services at 501-3196.

**May 13 - 16...AACT Production of Fiddler on the Roof, Jr.** - The Auburn Area Community Theatre (AACT) will present *Fiddler on the Roof, Jr.* May 13 - 16. Tickets are \$8 for adults and \$6 for students and seniors. For more information, contact the Jan Dempsey Community Arts Center at 501-2963.

**May 16...Swim Lesson, Auburn Aquatics, Swim Team, and Auburn Dive Team Registration** - Registration for swim lessons, Auburn Aquatics, Swim Team, and the Auburn Dive Team will be held May 16 from 1 - 3 p.m. at Samford Pool. For more information, contact the City of Auburn Parks and Recreation Department at 501-2930.

**May 19...Auburn Public Library Book Club** - The Auburn Public Library Book Club will meet May 19 at 6:30 p.m. For more information, contact the Reference Desk at 501-3195.

**May 20...Auburn City Pools Open** - Auburn City Pools open for the season May 20. Beat the heat this summer and visit Samford Pool, 332 East Samford Avenue, or Drake Pool, 653 Spencer Avenue. For more information, contact the City of Auburn Parks and Recreation Department at 501-2930.

**May 21...American Girls Club** - Youth in grades K - 5 are invited to join the American Girls Club at the Auburn Public Library May 21 at 3:30 p.m. This month's featured characters are Julie and Ivy. For more information, contact Youth Services at 501-3196.

**May 21...Bilingual Story Time/Cuentos Bilingües** - Join the Auburn Public Library for Bilingual Story Time/Cuentos Bilingües May 21 at 6 p.m. The program is open to all ages. For more information, contact Youth Services at 501-3196.

## Now Accepting Applications for SummerNight 2009



The City of Auburn, the Auburn Arts Association, and the Downtown Auburn Merchants will host SummerNight 2009 on Friday, June 19 from 6 - 9:30 p.m. in downtown Auburn. This free community event features artwork and music from area artists on display throughout downtown. Area artists, downtown businesses, and restaurants are encouraged to participate in the event.



Please visit [www.auburnsummernight.com](http://www.auburnsummernight.com) for more information or to fill out an application, or contact Sara Hand at 501-2947 or [shand@auburnlabama.org](mailto:shand@auburnlabama.org).

