

Open Line

A Monthly Newsletter for City of Auburn Citizens

May 2010

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Open Line is produced by

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City of Auburn



Auburn Police Chief Retires

The man in charge of public safety for the City of Auburn is retiring after 33 years of protecting the public. Police Chief Frank deGraffenried will retire his badge on May 1st. "I have been blessed to work in a progressive city with tremendous community input and support," deGraffenried said.

The Lee County native began working for the Auburn Police Division as a patrolman in 1977. He later attended Auburn University where he received a bachelor's degree in Business Administration, graduating magna cum laude. In 2003, deGraffenried was named the city's Chief of Police.

"We can all be thankful for the years of service that Chief deGraffenried has provided. His professional leadership and personal demeanor will be missed," said Charles Duggan, City Manager. Among his many accomplishments, the chief was instrumental in the successful merger of the separate police organizations serving Auburn University and the City of Auburn.

He has not only served in law enforcement, but he's also volunteered in the community through a number of service organizations. "There have been many people who have impacted my life in a positive way, and I just hope that I have done the same for others during my career," deGraffenried said. Perhaps one of his most impactful roles was his decade of service on the local United Way Board, acting as President for two terms. The chief looks forward to spending more time with his wife, Jo and their three children and four grandchildren.



Frank deGraffenried

Lee County Satellite Office Expands Service

Auburn residents will soon be able to renew their driver's license without leaving the city limits. The new Lee County Courthouse Satellite Office, located at 1266 Mall Parkway in Auburn, plans to provide driver's license renewal for Auburn residents in the near future.



The satellite office is a joint venture between Lee County and the City of Auburn. Architectural design services were provided by local architect Randy Wilson. Currently, Auburn residents can pay their property taxes, property assessments and tag renewal fees at the Auburn satellite office. Citizens can obtain a boating registration through the Satellite Office as well as several licenses, including licenses for marriage, hunting and fishing. In the coming weeks, residents will be able to renew their driver's license.

The Auburn Satellite Office not only provides a convenient location for Lee County's fastest growing City, but also helps relieve the steady customer traffic seen at the County Courthouse in Opelika. It is the County's second satellite office. In 2002, an office was opened in Smiths Station to provide a more convenient service location for customers in the southeastern portion of the county.

The Auburn Satellite Office is one example of the results of the strong partnership between Lee County and the City of Auburn. Currently, the City and County are sharing the cost of the North Donahue Drive Bridge replacement. The City and County are also part of the consolidated jail facility along with the City of Opelika. Each of these partnerships allows both the City of Auburn and Lee County to work more efficiently on behalf of citizens.

12th Annual Mayor's Memorial Day Breakfast



The City of Auburn and the Auburn Veterans Committee cordially invite citizens to attend the 12th Annual Mayor's Memorial Day Breakfast on Monday, May 31 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 \$25 each or \$250 for a table of 10.

Proceeds from ticket sales go to the Auburn Veterans Memorial Fund.

Auburn citizen Jack Simms will be the guest of honor and the recipient of the 2010 City of Auburn Distinguished Veteran Award. Simms, a combat veteran of World War II, is a distinguished alumnus and retired faculty member from Auburn University. 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.

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 31, as we honor the men and women who have courageously served our country. For more information, please visit www.auburnalabama.org/veterans or contact the City of Auburn Economic Development Department at 501-7270.

FEMA Floodplain Maps and Flood Insurance Study

For information and updates on the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) Floodplain Maps and Flood Insurance Study, visit www.auburnalabama.org/fema.

Questions? Visit us online at www.auburnalabama.org/fema or contact the City of Auburn Public Works Department at 501-3000 or webpw@auburnalabama.org.

Board Vacancies

- One vacancy on the **Board of Education** will be filled at the May 4 City Council meeting.
- Two vacancies on the **Planning Commission** will be announced at the June 15 City Council meeting and will be filled at the July 20 City Council meeting.



Citizens interested in serving on a City Board or Commission are encouraged to contact their City Council member or notify the City Manager's Office at webocm@auburnalabama.org or call 501-7260.

Memorial Day Holiday Schedule



City Hall will be closed Monday, May 31 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 31 - June 4 will change as follows:

City Hall closed: Monday, May 31

Normal Collection Day

Monday
Tuesday
Wednesday
Thursday

Holiday Pick-Up Schedule

Tuesday, June 1
Wednesday, June 2
Thursday, June 3
Friday, June 4

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 or visit our website at www.auburnalabama.org/es/holiday.asp.

MEETING SCHEDULE

MAY

- 3 Cemeteries Advisory Board**, 4 p.m., Dean Road Recreation Center
- 4 Parks & Recreation Advisory Board**, 5:15 p.m., Dean Road Recreation Center
- City Council**, 7 p.m., Council Chamber
- 5 Board of Zoning Adjustment**, 4:30 p.m., Council Chamber
- 7 Tree Commission**, 11:30 a.m., Chamber of Commerce Conference Room
- 11 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
- 13 Planning Commission**, 5 p.m., Council Chamber
- 18 City Council**, 7 p.m., Council Chamber
- 20 Water Works Board**, 4 p.m., Water Board Conference Room
- 25 Library Board**, 2 p.m., Auburn Public Library Board Room
- 30 Bicycle Committee**, 7 p.m., Development Services Building

Meeting times and places are subject to change.

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

Planning Commissioner Named State's "Friend of Planning"



An Auburn Planning Commissioner is receiving some impressive accolades and years of service to the city's planning efforts. Planning Commissioner Dr. Warren McCord has been named 2010's "Friend of Planning" by the state chapter of the American Planning Association. McCord

was presented the award at the Alabama chapter's Annual Awards Luncheon on March 18th in Tuscaloosa. "Warren's willingness to commit the time he has over the past 35 years to the planning efforts of the Auburn community demonstrates his dedication to the planning discipline," Forrest Cotten, Planning Director said. For the past 35 years, Warren has helped formulate comprehensive plans by serving as a member of multiple planning committees. He is a past planning commission chairman. Dr. McCord continues to serve on the Auburn Planning Commission, and is retired from the Alabama Cooperative Extension Service.

11th Annual Bike Bash Saturday, May 1



Grab your bikes and join the City of Auburn and the Auburn Bicycle Committee for the 11th Annual Bike Bash on Saturday, May 1st at Town Creek Park. Bike Bash is a community event designed to promote bicycle safety, and encourage bicycling as a fun and healthy leisure activity. Bicycle rides will be offered for beginners and advanced riders alike. The event features bicycle safety inspections, helmet fittings, and door prizes. Participants are encouraged to pre-register. Registration will be held the day of the

event, beginning at 7 a.m. For more information, or to download a registration form, visit www.auburnalabama.org/cycle and click on the "Bike Bash" button on the left.

City Builds Affordable Housing



The North Auburn Housing Development Corporation and the City of Auburn are building affordable housing in Northwest Village Subdivision. Contact the Community Development Di-

vision to make application and have your questions answered about how to make this purchase of a 3 bedroom, 2 bath, brick home. Contact us at 501-7280, or e-mail Todd White at tmwhite@auburnalabama.org.

18th Annual Fishing Rodeo

Sponsored by Evans Realty
Saturday, May 15



Hey kids, grab your fishing poles and join the City of Auburn Parks and Recreation Department for the 18th Annual Fishing Rodeo, sponsored by Evans Realty, on Saturday, May 15 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, visit www.auburnalabama.org/parks or contact the City of Auburn Parks and Recreation Department at 501-2930.

Last Day to Pay on Time Dates for April Water Bill Cycles

Continuing our effort to help City of Auburn Water Works Board customers adjust to the multi-cycle billing schedule, the *last day to pay on time* dates for each residential billing cycle for the current billing period are listed below.

Cycle*	Last Day to Pay Bill Received in April
1	Friday, April 16
2	Thursday, April 22
3	Monday, May 3
4	Monday, May 10

*The billing cycle number is located on your water bill

Payments may be made by cash, check, money order, automatic bank draft, credit, or debit card and are accepted at the following locations:

- **Online** at www.auburnalabama.org/wro
- **In-person** at the Bailey-Alexander Complex, 1501 West Samford Avenue
- **Payment drop boxes** located in front of Auburn City Hall on Tichenor Avenue and at the Bailey-Alexander Complex, 1501 West Samford Avenue

For more information, please visit www.auburnalabama.org/wro or contact the Water Works Board of the City of Auburn - Water Revenue Office at 501-3050 during regular business hours, Monday - Friday, 7:30 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.

Report Street Light Outages to Alabama Power

Citizens are reminded to report street light outages in the City of Auburn to Alabama Power's 24-hour customer service number at 1-800-245-2244. Please be prepared to provide the location of the street light, including the address or nearest house number.

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Auburn City Schools
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Open LineFeedback

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.

up COMING EVENTS

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



Now Showing ...Jan Dempsey Community Arts Center Exhibition - Mark your calendar for the following Jan Dempsey Community Arts Center Exhibition. The exhibit is free and open to the public Monday - Friday from 8 a.m. - 5 p.m. For more information, contact the Arts Center at 501-2963.

• **12th Annual Juried Art Exhibition**, May 4 - June 5. A competitive exhibition open to artists and craft-persons in Lee County.

Now Available...Applications for SummerNight 2010 - Join the City of Auburn, Jan Dempsey Community Arts Center, Auburn Arts Association, and Downtown Auburn Merchants for SummerNight 2010 on June 18 from 6 - 9:30 p.m. in downtown Auburn. This free community event features artwork from area artists on display throughout downtown, live music, children's activities, and more. Area artists, downtown businesses, and restaurants are encouraged to participate. For more information, or to download an application, visit www.auburnalabama.org/arts or contact the Arts Center at 501-2963.



Weekly in May...Auburn Public Library Story Times for Children - Join the Auburn Public Library as they host special story times for children ages 6 months - 5 years and their caregivers. All story times are held at 10 a.m. For more information, visit www.auburnalabama.org/library or contact Youth Services at 501-3196.

- **Tuesdays** - Baby Time (ages 6 - 18 months)
- **Wednesdays** - Preschool Story Time (ages 3 - 5 years)
- **Thursdays** - Toddler Time (ages 18 months - 3 years)



May 1...Bike Bash 2010 - Join the City of Auburn and the Auburn Bicycle Committee for Bike Bash 2010 at Town Creek Park on May 1 from 7 - 11 a.m. Bike Bash is an event to encourage biking activities, bicycle safety, and emphasize local bike-friendly areas. Bicycle rides of varying distances will be offered. Registration is available online at www.auburnalabama.org/cycle. For more information, contact the Dean Road Recreation Center at 501-2930.

May 3...Parks and Recreation Summer Brochure Available and Summer Registration Begins - Be sure to pick up your copy of the 2010 Parks and Recreation Summer Brochure, available beginning May 3 at City facilities and online at www.auburnalabama.org/parks/brochure.asp. The brochure is your complete guide to summer camps, programs, activities, pool schedules, and much more. Registration for summer programs will be held May 3 - 29, weekdays from 8 a.m. - 5 p.m. at the Dean Road Recreation Center. For more information, visit www.auburnalabama.org/parks or contact the Dean Road Recreation Center at 501-2930.



May 4...Auburn History Club for Teens - Youth in grades 8 - 12 are invited to join the Auburn History Club at the Auburn Public Library on May 4 at 4 p.m. For more information, visit www.auburnalabama.org/library or contact Youth Services at 501-3196.



May 5...Magic Tree House Club - Youth in grades K - 5 are invited to join the Auburn Public Library for the Magic Tree House Club on May 5 at 3:30 p.m. This month's featured title is *Summer of the Sea Serpent*. For more information, visit www.auburnalabama.org/library or contact Youth Services at 501-3196.

May 6...Teen Café Game Day - Youth in grades 6 - 12 are invited to join the Auburn Public Library for Teen Café Game Day May 6 at 6:30 p.m. For more information, visit www.auburnalabama.org/library or contact Youth Services at 501-3196.



May 6, 13, 20, & 27...May Sundown Concert Series at Town Creek Park - Join us for the May Sundown Concert Series at its new location...Town Creek Park! Enjoy the sights and sounds of local and regional musicians every Thursday in May from 6 - 7:30 p.m. Nestled right in the middle of Auburn, Town Creek Park is the perfect setting for an evening of free musical entertainment. Bring the family, a picnic, and a blanket and chairs. For more information, visit www.auburnalabama.org/parks or contact the Dean Road Recreation Center at 501-2930.

May 7...First Friday Night Tennis Mixer - Join the Auburn Community Tennis Association (ACTA) for the First Friday Night Tennis Mixer on May 7 at 6:30 p.m. at the City of Auburn/Auburn University Yarbrough Tennis Center. Citizens ages 19 and up are encouraged to play. All levels of play are welcome. No partner is necessary. The event will be held rain or shine. Yarbrough Tennis Center non-member court fees apply. For more information, visit www.auburnalabama.org/tennis or contact the Yarbrough Tennis Center at 501-2920.



May 11...Puppet Show - Youth ages 3 - 11 are invited to join the Auburn Public Library for a puppet show entitled *The Mother's Gift* on May 11 at 3:30 p.m. For more information, visit www.auburnalabama.org/library or contact Youth Services at 501-3196.

Register by May 14...X-Cell Field Trip High Ropes Challenge - Calling all youth ages 12 - 15, grab your friends and join Parks and Recreation for some high flying fun at the X-Cell Field Trip High Ropes Challenge May 22 from 8:30 a.m. - 3:30 p.m. Participants will meet at the Dean Road Recreation Center and travel to the Auburn University High Ropes Course. The cost is \$45, payable in cash on the day of the trip. Participants must be registered by May 14. For more information, or to register, contact Melissa Weldon at 501-2946.

May 14 - 16 & 20 - 23...Auburn Area Community Theatre Spring Production - The Auburn Area Community Theatre will present *Dearly Beloved*, a comedy about love, marriage, sisterhood, and gospel music, May 14 - 16 & 20 - 23 at the Jan Dempsey Community Arts Center. Evening shows are at 7:30 p.m. Sunday matinees are at 2 p.m. Tickets are \$10 for adults and \$8 for students and seniors. For more information, visit www.auburnalabama.org/arts or contact the Arts Center at 501-2963.



May 20...American Girls Club - Youth in grades K - 5 are invited to join the American Girls Club at the Auburn Public Library on May 20 at 3:30 p.m. This month's featured character is Josefina. For more information, visit www.auburnalabama.org/library or contact Youth Services at 501-3196.

May 26...Auburn City Pools Open - Auburn City Pools open for the season May 26. Beat the heat this summer, visit Samford Pool, 332 East Samford Avenue, or Drake Pool, 653 Spencer Avenue. Pool schedules will be available online at www.auburnalabama.org/parks/pools.asp beginning May 3. For more information, visit www.auburnalabama.org/parks or contact the Dean Road Recreation Center at 501-2930.

