

Open Line

A Monthly Newsletter for City of Auburn Citizens

April 2016

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City of Auburn



Auburn CityFest turns Sweet Sixteen with Arts and Acrobats

presented by the Opelika-Auburn News

Join Auburn Parks and Recreation for Auburn CityFest 2016: Arts and Acrobats, presented by the Opelika-Auburn News and co-sponsored by MAX Credit Union. The 16th annual Cityfest will be held on Saturday, April 30th from 9 a.m. – 4 p.m. at Kiesel Park at 550 Chadwick Lane in Auburn. Auburn CityFest is the area's largest, FREE, outdoor festival!

With over 100 arts and crafts, fine arts, food and non-profit vendors, Auburn CityFest 2016: Arts and Acrobats promises to showcase a variety of local and regional talent. From the gravity-defying talents of the ZuZu African Acrobats, to the musical stylings of local favorite Trace Pridgen and musical headliner Jive Mother Mary, Auburn CityFest 2016 promises something for everyone. Returning favorites include face painting, Lew-E the Clown, Jubilee Farms and inflatables by Star Walk Enterprises. This year, kids can discover their inner artist as they create their own one-of-a-kind projects at the Children's Art Fest Tent. Our Sweet 16 promises to be one to remember!



Auburn CityFest 2016 is FREE to the public and is a rain or shine event. Visit www.auburncityfest.com for more information.

12th Annual Juried Art Show Preview Reception

Can't wait for CityFest to see this year's art exhibition? Join us on Thursday, April 28th from 5:30 to 7:30 p.m. at Kiesel Park's historic Nunn-Winston House for a night of great art, food and music. The 12th Annual Juried Art Show Preview Reception, brought to you by the Auburn CityFest Committee, the Auburn Arts Association and the Auburn-Opelika Tourism Bureau with food sponsored by Jim N' Nicks and entertainment by Trace Pridgen, is a unique opportunity to see the works that will be exhibited at Auburn CityFest. For more information, visit auburncityfest.com.

Auburn Floral Trail

Take in the sights and sounds of spring on the 2016 Auburn Floral Trail, March 7th through April 8th, presented by the Auburn Beautification Council and the Auburn-Opelika Tourism Bureau. Auburn's annual floral trail winds through 14 miles of the most beautiful spring blooms the South has to offer. For route information, visit auburnbeautification.com.

2016 Household Hazardous Waste Collection Day Event

The City of Auburn Environmental Services Department will host the 14th Annual Household Hazardous Waste Collection Day on Saturday, April 23rd from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. at the Environmental Services Complex, located at 365-A North Donahue Drive. Last year, 178 Auburn citizens participated in recycling or disposing of various chemicals and materials including computers and related equipment.

Citizens may bring up to 20 pounds of material per household for disposal. Participation is limited to Auburn residents. Proof of residency can be shown by bringing a recent water bill. No farm, commercial, or industrial waste is permitted. For more information, visit auburnalabama.org/es or call (334) 501-3080.



There's Still Time to Register for the 2016 Citizens' Public Safety Academy

It's not too late – The City of Auburn Public Safety Department is still accepting applications for the 2016 Citizens' Public Safety Academy. This free program provides an opportunity to hear from the City's Public Safety officials, including the Police and Fire Chiefs; and to participate in hands-on exercises including firearms training from the Auburn Police Division, CPR training from the Auburn Fire Division, a mock crime scene and more.

The program began on March 3rd, but applicants may still apply to join the class during March. Don't miss this chance to join the 2016 class for a hands-on look at the work of Police, Fire and all of Public Safety as they strive to make Auburn safer and better each and every day.

A downloadable application form is available in the Citizen's Public Safety Academy press release at auburnalabama.org/news.

Ward 5 Public Meeting

Ward 5 Councilperson Lynda Tremaine will hold her monthly public meeting for Ward 5 residents on Monday, April 4th 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 auburnalabama.org/maps/Voting-Ward.

Mosquito Control 2016

As a mild winter moves towards spring, there's talk in the media about the Zika virus, which is spread by mosquitos. The Environmental Services department has been in contact with Auburn University's Department of Entomology to assist with collection and testing as part of planning this year's mosquito control efforts. Residents who have an immediate need or concern regarding mosquito control should consult an exterminator.

Sampling and eventual spray times will be affected by the Zika virus concerns, as different types of mosquitos harbor different viruses and tend to be active at different times of day. Stay tuned to Open Line and the City of Auburn online at Facebook, Twitter, and auburnalabama.org for more information.

The New Opelika Road Traffic Signal is Active

The new traffic signal at the corner of Opelika Road and Commerce Drive began operation in February. Work to provide road striping appropriate for a signalized intersection continues. Once the project is complete, motorists will have a protected left turn both from and onto Commerce Drive at Opelika Road. Drivers are asked to continue to exercise caution as new intersection striping is placed and as they become accustomed to the new traffic signal. This project was a collaboration of the cities of Auburn and Opelika to improve traffic flow and intersection safety at the city limits for residents of both cities.

Board Vacancies

One vacancy for the **Library Board** will be announced at the March 1, 2016 meeting and will be filled at the April 5, 2016 City Council Meeting.



Two vacancies for the **Historic Preservation Commission** will be announced at the March 1, 2016 meeting and will be filled at the April 5, 2016 City Council Meeting.

One vacancy for the **Board of Education** will be announced at the March 22, 2016 meeting and will be filled at the April 19, 2016 City Council Meeting.

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



Bike Bash

The City of Auburn and the Auburn Bicycle Committee will host the 17th Annual Auburn Bike Bash on Saturday, April 23rd. On-site registration begins at 8 a.m. and the first ride begins at 9 a.m. This year's event will be held at Wrights Mill Road Elementary School. Routes of 3, 10, and 20 miles will guide riders through Town Creek Park, a variety of Auburn neighborhoods and beyond providing ideal rides for cyclists of all abilities. Great music, bicycle inspections, helmet fittings, exhibits, activities for children and a cook-out are sure to make this an event you don't want to miss!

Bike Bash is coordinated to encourage biking activities, endorse bicycle safety, promote the health benefits of this great leisure sport and emphasize local bike-friendly trails and areas. Activities are available for all ages so bring the family and get involved! For more information and pre-registration forms, visit bikebash.org.



Friends of the Auburn Public Library to Host Spring Book Sale

The Friends of the Auburn Public Library will host their spring book sale on Saturday, April 2nd from 8 a.m. to 1 p.m. at the Dean Road Recreation Center.

The sale is open to the public, and thousands of gently used books will be available for purchase, including bestsellers, classics, fiction, nonfiction, and children's books, most for either \$1.00 or \$0.50. All proceeds from the sale benefit the Auburn Public Library, including the Summer Reading Program, One Book One Village, and special events like the Fairy Tale Ball and the Star Wars Imperial Gala. The book sale is made possible through the efforts of the Friends of the Auburn Public Library, the Auburn Public Library staff, Two Men and a Truck, and First Team Construction.

If you'd like to donate books for the sale, you can deliver them to the Auburn Public Library at 749 E. Thach Avenue during the library's normal hours of business. If you would like more information about the book sale, or if you're interested in volunteering or joining the Friends of the Auburn Public Library, please call Libby Anderson, President of the Friends, at 334-219-0998 or email libraryfriendsapl@gmail.com.

Keep Auburn Beautiful this Spring!

This spring, the Environmental Services Department and Keep Auburn Beautiful will conduct a campaign to remind everyone to keep the newly renovated downtown Auburn streetscape clean. The "Don't Drop Your Butts Here" campaign is designed to reduce litter caused by cigarette butts. On a typical weekend, our Environmental Services crews may remove as many as 500 cigarette butts from downtown sidewalks as part of their regular cleanup.

An awareness campaign will be held from March 25th through April 22nd to help remind people to dispose of cigarette butts properly with the goal of reducing the number of cigarette butts found downtown each weekend. There are eight ashtrays placed throughout the downtown core on College Street and Magnolia Avenue, along with the trash and recycling containers. Please join us this spring in reminding folks "Don't Drop Your Butts Here" as an important way to Keep Auburn Beautiful.

MEETING SCHEDULE

APRIL

- 1 Tree Commission**, 11:30 a.m., Chamber of Commerce Conference Room, 714 E. Glenn Avenue
- 4 Cemeteries Advisory Board**, 4 p.m., Harris Center, 425 Perry Street
- 5 Parks & Recreation Advisory Board**, 11:45 a.m., Harris Center, 425 Perry Street
- 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
- 6 Board of Zoning Adjustment**, 4:30 p.m., Council Chamber, 141 North Ross Street
- 12 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
- 14 Planning Commission**, 5 p.m., Council Chamber, 141 North Ross Street
- 19 Library Board**, 4 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
- 21 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.

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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 501-7266.

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.

NATIONAL POETRY MONTH

Poetry Reading with Keetje Kuipers – Tuesday, April 12 at 6:30 p.m. A recipient of the Pushcart Prize, Kuipers' poems have appeared in such publications as *American Poetry Review*, *Orion*, *West Branch*, and *Prairie Schooner*. She is an Assistant Professor at Auburn University where she is Editor of *Southern Humanities Review*.

Community Open Mic Poetry Night – Tuesday, April 26 at 6:30 p.m. You're invited to read your own original poetry or your favorite published poem (please credit the poet before the reading)! Sign-ups will begin at 6:00 p.m. and will be on a first come, first slot basis until we filled 12 five-minute time slots.

STORYTIMES

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, April 6 at 3:30 p.m., for ages 4 through 7.

Family Storytime – Sunday, April 24 at 4:00 p.m. Bring the whole family and join us for interactive stories, songs, games, and family fun.

Please note that we will not host any storytimes from Monday, April 18 through Friday, April 22.

BOOK GROUPS

Forever YA Book Club - Tuesday, April 19 at 7:00 p.m. at the Auburn Public Library, featuring *The Truth About Forever* by Sarah Dessen.

Show & Tell Book Group - Monday, April 18 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, April 26 at 10:00 a.m. at the Harris Senior Center, featuring *Still Alive* by Lisa Genova

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 auburnalabama.org/parks.

Save the Date!

- **Summer Brochure** is available beginning Friday, April 1 at all Auburn Parks and Recreation facilities and online at auburnalabama.org/parks.
- **Splash Passes** go on sale Monday, April 4. For more information or to purchase a pass, please call 334.501.2930.
- **Auburn Dragonflies Swim Team** online registration begins on Monday, April 4. For more information or to register, please visit auburnalabama.org/pools.
- **Bike Bash 2016** will be on Saturday, April 23 at Wrights Mill Elementary School from 8 a.m. – noon. Route distances of 3, 9 and 20 miles will be offered. For more information or to register, please visit bikebash.org or contact Gabby Meredith at 334.501.2930.
- **Lee County Special Olympics Track and Field** will host a meet at Smiths Station on Wednesday, April 13. Show your support for these amazing athletes by volunteering or coaching! Contact Dana Stewart at 334.501.2950 for more information or follow us on Facebook at facebook.com/specialolympicsalleeco. The rain date will be Wednesday, April 20 at Smiths Station.
- **Summer Camp** registration begins on May 2. For more information, please call the Harris Center at 334.501.2930 or visit us online at auburnalabama.org/parks.

Mark your calendar! – Beginning March 25 through May 6, the Jan Dempsey Community Arts Center will host the **Forty 2 Fifty Plus invitational**, an exhibition of large-scale two and three dimensional works, and the **Spring Photography Show** on April 11 – May 20, which showcases photographs by local and regional artists based on an assigned theme. Exhibitions are free and open to the public Monday – Friday from 8 a.m. – 5 p.m. For more information, please call the Arts Center at 334.501.2963 or visit auburnalabama.org/arts.

Scale Back Alabama April Events: As Scale Back Alabama comes up on Week 10, check out the last few events in April to help you #Drop10!

- **Hands on Nutrition:** On Thursday, April 7, join Scale Back Alabama and learn how to take control of your health through home grown produce from 5:30 – 7 p.m. In a special presentation, Josh and Beth Hornsby of Hornsby Farms will discuss how to get started growing your own vegetables, using them in cooking and the health benefits of growing your own produce. A representative from an area restaurant will do a cooking demonstration using locally grown produce. Tia Gonzalez, Manager of the AU Medicinal Gardens on campus will also talk about how to grow herbs, incorporating them into cooking and the health benefits of using herbs.
- **Weigh-Out Week** will be held from Monday, April 11 – Sunday, April 17. Visit aotourism.com/scalebackal for a list of weigh-out sites and times. For more information, please contact Alison Hall, Community & Special Programs Director, at 334.501.2940 or ahall@auburnalabama.org.

Bark in the Park – Sit, stay, roll over! Dog lovers are invited to join Auburn Parks and Recreation on Saturday, April 2 at Kiesel Park from 9 a.m. – 2 p.m. for Bark in the Park, a celebration of our canine companions and responsible dog ownership. This is a FREE community event open to all dog owners and their four-legged friends. For more information about the event or information about becoming a vendor, please contact Gabby Meredith at gmeredith@auburnalabama.org or call 334.501.2930.