

Open Line

A Monthly Newsletter for City of Auburn Citizens

December 2009

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City of Auburn



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Representative Mike Hubbard Secures Community Service Grant for Auburn Fire Division

Representative Mike Hubbard recently secured a Community Service Grant through the State of Alabama to provide communication equipment for the City of Auburn Public Safety Department - Fire Division. The grant, totaling \$6,000, will be used to provide hand-held, digital walkie talkies for Auburn Fire Division personnel. The upgraded equipment will assist the City in complying with new FCC requirements for radios, effective January 1, 2013. Representative Hubbard was on-hand at the October 20 City Council meeting to present the check to Mayor Bill Ham, Jr., Public Safety Director Bill James, and Fire Chief Lee Lamar.

Mayor Bill Ham, Jr. commented, "Supplying our first responders with the equipment they need to serve the citizens of Auburn is of the utmost importance. We appreciate Representative Hubbard's continued support of the City of Auburn's mission to provide quality services to our citizens."

For more information, please contact the City of Auburn Public Safety Department - Administration Division at 501-3110.



North College Historic District Improvements

The lights are shining brightly along North College Street these days thanks to the recently-completed North College Historic District Improvements Project. This Historic District project, totaling \$200,000, called for the installation of 42 decorative street lights and custom street name and speed limit signs along portions of North College Street, Gay Street, Drake Avenue, Bragg Avenue, and Mitcham Avenue. The new street name signs feature the current street name, along with the street's historic name. The Auburn City Council, in cooperation with the Historic Preservation Commission, authorized expenditures for the project at the May 19 Council meeting. Funds had been budgeted for this purpose from the 2004 Capital Projects Fund. Work began in June and was completed in time for Auburn to host the Alabama Historical Commission's 41st Annual Preservation Conference in October.



For more information, please contact the City of Auburn Planning Department at 501-3040.

Holiday Schedule

City Hall will be closed on Friday, December 25 for the Christmas holiday. Public Safety services, including Police, Fire, and Communications, will remain on their regular schedules. All garbage, trash, and recycling collections for the week of December 21 - 25 will remain on their regular schedules.

Happy Holidays!

City of Auburn Now Offers Online Job Applications

Individuals interested in working for the City of Auburn can now submit their applications online! Please visit our website at www.auburnalabama.org/jobs to view our current vacancies and to receive instructions on how to apply online. Applications may still be downloaded, completed, and mailed directly to us via US Mail. You may also apply for positions with the City of Auburn at the Alabama Career Center on Frederick Road in Opelika. In addition to viewing our vacancies on the website, you can learn which positions are currently vacant by calling the City's job line at 501-7250 or sign up for email notifications at www.auburnalabama.org/e-Notifier.

The City of Auburn is an equal opportunity employer.

FEMA Floodplain Maps and Flood Insurance Study Update

Proposed maps scheduled to go into effect in July 2010

Lee County and the City of Auburn are in the process of updating their Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) Floodplain Maps and Flood Insurance Study. Property owners affected by the proposed floodplain have been notified by mail. The 90-day appeal and protest period, required by FEMA, ended on November 2. The proposed maps are scheduled to go into effect in July 2010.

Visit www.auburnalabama.org/fema/maps.asp for an interactive map of the current and proposed FEMA floodplains. Property owners are encouraged to visit the site to determine if their property is in the proposed floodplain.

For more information, please visit the City's FEMA webpage 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 **Water Works Board** will be filled at the December 15 City Council meeting.
- Two vacancies on the **Board of Zoning Adjustment** will be filled at the January 5, 2010 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.

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

In an effort to help customers of the Water Works Board of the City of Auburn (AWWB) adjust to the new multi-cycle billing schedule, *Open Line* will begin including the *last day to pay on time* dates for each residential billing cycle. The billing cycle number is located on your water bill.

Cycle	Last Day to Pay Bill Received in November
1	November 18
2	November 24
3	December 3
4	December 9

Payments may be made by cash, check, money order, automatic bank draft, credit, or debit card. Payments 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.

MEETING SCHEDULE

DECEMBER

- 1 Parks & Recreation Advisory Board**, 5:15 p.m., Dean Road Recreation Center
- City Council**, 7 p.m., Council Chamber
- 2 Board of Zoning Adjustment**, 4:30 p.m., Council Chamber
- 4 Tree Commission**, 11:30 a.m., Chamber of Commerce Conference Room
- 7 Cemeteries Advisory Board**, 4 p.m., Dean Road Recreation Center
- 8 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
- 10 Planning Commission**, 5 p.m., Council Chamber
- 15 City Council**, 7 p.m., Council Chamber
- 17 Water Works Board**, 4 p.m., Water Board Conference 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.



Shop Auburn for the Holidays

The holidays are here and citizens are reminded to *ShopAuburn* this season and keep your sales tax dollars local. Auburn's sales tax revenue supports Auburn City Schools, provides infrastructure improvements, supports public services such as police and fire protection, provides for the maintenance and paving of roads, and helps sponsor community events such as Daddy-Daughter Date Night, Bike Bash, Downtown Trick-or-Treat, and Auburn CityFest.

This holiday season, don't forget to *ShopAuburn* and keep your sales tax dollars local. For more information on the *ShopAuburn* campaign, please contact the Auburn Chamber of Commerce at 887-7011. For more information on sales tax and revenue, please contact the City of Auburn Revenue Office at 501-7239.

Enjoy **FREE PARKING**
in downtown metered
spaces **Friday, December 18 -**
Friday, January 8, 2010!



Reporting Street Light Outages

To report a street light outage in the City of Auburn, please contact Alabama Power's 24-hour customer service number at 1-800-245-2244.

Daddy-Daughter Date Night 2010

Tickets on Sale December 7



Tickets to the Annual Daddy-Daughter Date Night (DDDN) go on sale Monday, December 7. Tickets will be available while supplies last on weekdays from 8 a.m. - 5 p.m. at the Dean Road Recreation Center, located at 307 South Dean Road. Due to overwhelming demand, DDDN will be held on three nights, February 11 - 13, 2010, at the Lexington Hotel on South College Street. The cost is \$30 per couple and \$5 for each additional child. A limited number of tickets are available. This event sells out quickly, so be sure to purchase your tickets early.

For more information, visit www.auburnalabama.org/parks and click on the special events button, or contact the City of Auburn Parks and Recreation Department at 501-2930.

2010 Daddy-Daughter Date Night

Thursday, February 11	5:30 p.m. - 8 p.m.
Friday, February 12	6:30 p.m. - 9 p.m.
Saturday, February 13	6:30 p.m. - 9 p.m.

Frying a Turkey for the Holidays?

Recycle your grease through the
City's Cooking Oil/Grease Recycling Program



If your holiday plans include frying a turkey, don't pour the leftover grease down the drain, recycle it through the City of Auburn's Cooking Oil/Grease Recycling Program. To participate, simply

pour any used cooking oil (after it has cooled) into its original, leak-proof container and drop it off at the RecycleAuburn Drop-Off Center, located at 365-A North Donahue Drive. While you're there, pick up a new, empty container for future use, courtesy of the City of Auburn. Properly disposing of used cooking oil/grease is good for the environment and helps prevent costly sewer blockages and potential sewer spills.

Visit www.auburnalabama.org/wrm-sewer.FOG.asp or contact Matt Dunn or Mikel Thompson in the City of Auburn Water Resource Management Department at 501-3060 for more information.

City of Auburn Offers New Street Routing Web Application

Motorists and cyclists can now map best routes
to favorite locations



Looking for the most efficient route when dropping your children off at school? Planning your commute by bicycle and want the safest route to travel utilizing Auburn's Bicycle Network? Auburn motorists and cyclists now have a new tool to help identify the most efficient routes

around town thanks to a new street routing web site created by the City of Auburn Information Technology Department - Geographic Information System (GIS) Division. Using the City's extensive GIS data and taking into account the latest City street closings and detours, users can locate the best route between points anywhere in the City. The application allows users to find the fastest, shortest, or for cyclists, safest, route to any number of stops. There is even an option that allows you to create your own barriers so the application will know that you want to avoid certain roads or paths.

Log on to www.auburnalabama.org/maps/Interactive to use the application and select the street routing map link. Using the search box, enter the address or intersection of a location in the City and click search. The application will generate a "stop" on the map for each address entered. Alternatively you can just click on the map to place a stop. Once you have selected your destinations, click the "get route" button to generate directions. Users may select routes based on shortest drive time, shortest distance, or traveling by bicycle.

The City of Auburn Information Technology Department - GIS Division creates and maintains Auburn's extensive GIS network. Since its creation in 2001, the City's GIS Division has become a leader in GIS applications and technology throughout the State of Alabama and across the nation. Auburn's GIS applications are frequently featured at conferences and workshops hosted by ESRI, the world leader in GIS modeling and mapping software.

For more information, please visit www.auburnalabama.org/maps or contact the City of Auburn Information Technology Department - GIS Division at 501-7200.

Mayor Bill Ham, Jr. has declared Saturday, February 6, 2010 THE BIG EVENT Day in the City of Auburn in recognition of Auburn University's Student Government Association's (SGA) one-day, student-run community service project. In support of the event, THE BIG EVENT job request form will appear in place of Upcoming Events and City department contact information this month. For the latest news and announcements from the City of Auburn, please visit www.auburnalabama.org. For City department contact information, please visit www.auburnalabama.org and click on the contact/report button on the left.

The City of Auburn would like thank Auburn University and the Student Government Association for their contributions to the Auburn community.



Auburn University SGA Presents: THE BIG EVENT Saturday, February 6, 2010

THE BIG EVENT is a one-day, student-run service project sponsored by Auburn University's Student Government Association (SGA). The program began in 2003 as a way for Auburn University's students to give back to the communities of Auburn, Opelika, and Lee County. Event organizers are looking for *your* help. If your business, church, household, or organization would like to request student volunteers for THE BIG EVENT on **Saturday, February 6, 2010**, please fill out this job request form and return it to the SGA Office by **Friday, January 8, 2010**. Approved projects will be posted online by Friday, January 15, 2010. This project is **not** based on financial need, rather a way of saying THANK YOU to the community.

Please return your completed form in a **separate** envelope postmarked by **January 8, 2010** to:
Auburn University SGA Office • Attn: THE BIG EVENT
3130 AU Student Center • Auburn University, AL 36849-5134

For more information, please visit www.auBIGEVENT.com or contact the SGA Office at (334) 844-4240.

Project Name..... Business Church Household Organization
(circle one)

Work Site Address..... Auburn Opelika Lee County
(circle one)

Contact Name..... Phone Number.....

Alternate Phone..... Email.....

**VOLUNTEERS WILL BE AVAILABLE SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 6, 2010 FROM 10 AM - 2 PM ONLY.
PLEASE KEEP THIS IN MIND WHEN REQUESTING ASSISTANCE WITH PROJECTS.**

Interior Work		Exterior Work		Specialized Work	
....Window washing	....Painting	....Planting	....Painting	....Electrical	....Plumbing
....Cleaning/sweeping	....Organizing	....Trimming	....Digging	....Construction	
....Other (describe below)		....Fertilizing	....Other (describe below)	<i>Please mark all that apply and describe in detail below.</i>	

Do you have storage available? Shed Garage Room None
(circle one)

Estimated number of volunteers needed to complete your request.....

Detailed description of the work requested.....

By signing below, I certify that I am the owner or have obtained approval from the owner of the work site concerning the above requested work. I understand this is only a request and all requests must be approved by THE BIG EVENT Committee, pending a work site visit.

X..... **Date**.....
Signature