

# Open Line

A Monthly Newsletter for City of Auburn Citizens

June 2020

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**Open Line** is produced  
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City of Auburn

## Memorial Day celebrations to take place online

For the safety of the Auburn community during these uncertain times, the annual Mayor's Memorial Day Breakfast has been canceled. Instead, you're invited to watch a livestreamed Memorial Day Ceremony as we honor the U.S. Military and those who have made the ultimate sacrifice. The ceremony will be held on Monday, May 25, at 9 a.m. The community is invited to watch live on the City's Facebook at facebook.com/CityofAuburnAL or YouTube at youtube.com/CityofAuburnAL.



Mayor Ron Anders will deliver remarks recognizing our nation's heroes and the sacrifices they have made. He will be joined by Lisa Tabor who will sing the "The Star-Spangled Banner" and Nathan Landers who will play "Taps" on the bugle. The ceremony will conclude with a bagpipe performance of "Amazing Grace" by Dan Drummond.

Depending on the rapidly changing outlook regarding the COVID-19 pandemic and future recommendations from public health officials, the City hopes to hold a breakfast honoring this year's Distinguished Veteran Lt. Col. James Witte, U.S. Army, and Hero Remembered Col. Gregory S. Townsend, U.S. Army, along with all our service men and women on Veterans Day this November. Announcements will be made through the City's website, social media channels @CityofAuburnAL and eNotifier (auburnalabama.org/eNotifier). Find more information about the City's efforts to honor our community's veterans at auburnalabama.org/veterans.

## City employees provide services despite challenges



Crews work to repair a culvert after heavy rains in April.

Though the doors to City facilities have been closed since early April, your local government has continued working as hard as ever to provide the services for which you rely on us. We wanted to take a moment to extend our gratitude to our City employees who have continued to serve you, finding innovative ways to meet your needs.

Programs like goody bags for seniors, the Curbside City Market, virtual story times, virtual zumba, reading challenges and many more have been instituted to help take the place of our normal programming. We continue to collect trash, purify water, treat

Continued on page 2...

## City employees provide services despite challenges (continued)

waste, prepare for funerals at the City's cemeteries, respond to storm events and provide protection for the Auburn community. We implemented video conferencing meetings not only internally but externally to help us stay safe but also to continue our commitment to open government.

Each City department has continued its dedication to our one mission: providing services to you, our residents. Thanks to each of these employees for their work that allows our City to keep running in the face of whatever challenges may come.



Crews repair a sanitary sewer line in April.



## DID YOU KNOW? STREET TREES

As outdoor spring chores get underway, property owners should remember that it is **unlawful** for anyone to remove, alter, damage or destroy trees on City rights of way, even those adjacent to private property.

FIND DETAILS IN SECTION 17-64 OF THE  
CITY CODE OF THE CITY OF AUBURN  
[AUBURNALABAMA.ORG/CITY-CODE](http://AUBURNALABAMA.ORG/CITY-CODE)



## Summer Learning Challenge

The Auburn Public Library will host its 2020 Summer Learning Challenge online this year. The SLC will run June 1-July 31, and the goal will be to read 20 hours over the course of the summer. Register and track your reading in the Beanstack App, which you can find at [auburnalabama.org/library/online-resources](http://auburnalabama.org/library/online-resources). After you have completed the challenge, you will receive a t-shirt (while supplies last)! T-shirts can be mailed to you or picked up at the Auburn Public Library. Finally, 25 lucky winners will win a \$25 gift card to local Auburn businesses!



## First Curbside City Market a success

Auburn Parks and Recreation held its first Curbside City Market on Saturday, April 25. The market was a huge success with over 300 orders. Because of the COVID 19 outbreak, typical farmers markets have not been possible. Local growers reached out to Parks and Recreation to find a way they could collaborate and sell their produce, baked goods, canned items and more. If the current conditions continue into the abundant growing season this summer and Parks and Recreation is unable to hold its traditional City Market, the Curbside City Market could continue. Thank you to all customers who supported the local growers. To keep up with what is going on at the Auburn Parks and Recreation's City Market visit [auburnalabama.org/parks/programs/city-market](http://auburnalabama.org/parks/programs/city-market).



## Entrepreneurship & Technology: Looking for startups and mentors

A healthy entrepreneurial ecosystem helps any city grow—it brings talent, businesses, jobs and investment capital. Entrepreneurial and Technology Programs, an initiative out of our Economic Development Department, aims to create that sort of thriving environment for early-stage tech businesses, known as startups, and to reap all of its benefits.

“Our vision is for Auburn to become a vibrant startup hub,” said Auburn Mayor Ron Anders. “By offering support to these developing companies, we will keep a competitive edge and grow the presence of tech-based companies in Auburn.”

For decades we have run an incubation system for young, emerging companies. These incubators on Pumphrey Avenue are geared towards startups’ needs. They offer office and manufacturing space, shared amenities and leases that budding businesses can afford. These programs exist to dually support Auburn startups and our economy.

Entrepreneurial and Technology Programs will assist startups in making valuable business connections with mentors or investors, by offering programming like seminars and workshops and by sharing available resources. Our goal is to help however we can. What we do now for startups may provide the strong footing needed to create lasting, profitable tech businesses in Auburn.

Our collaborative partners contribute to the success of this entrepreneurial ecosystem. Auburn University’s Harbert College of Business holds Tiger Cage business plan competitions that produce startups each year. Out of Auburn University’s Samuel Ginn College of Engineering emerge discoveries and solutions that may be developed into tech startups. Auburn University’s Office of Innovation Advancement and Commercialization assists with tech transfer. The Auburn Research and Technology Foundation provides consulting and offers additional incubator space options.

This high level of comprehensive support for startups is what sets Auburn apart from other communities. Two outstanding examples of promising local startups include Flashtract and XO Armor.

Flashtract, a cloud-based software that streamlines and automates the payment process for construction companies, won the 2019 Tiger Cage and Auburn Regional Alabama Launchpad competitions, amassing \$85,000 in prize money in three days. They graduated from a small footprint at the Tiger Cage Accelerator-Incubator and have been stationed at our incubator, Auburn Center for Developing Industries. They are on track to becoming a successful startup.

XO Armor is a startup created by Dr. Michael Zabala, assistant professor in the AU Department of Mechanical Engineering. He was also part of a team that received the \$1.275 million Auburn University

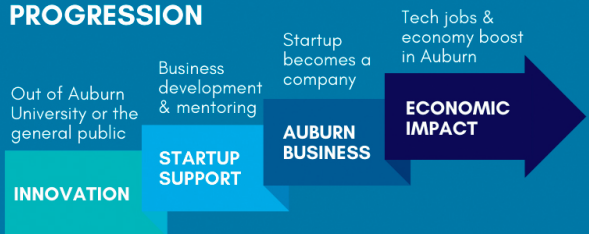
Presidential Award for Interdisciplinary Research. He and his business team are developing innovative solutions, utilizing 3-D printing and app integration, for which they have recently filed a provisional patent application. We have introduced them to local expertise as they work to scale up their concept from prototyping to forming a business.

If you would like to join our entrepreneurial community, have questions or would like to know more about these programs, visit the Entrepreneurship page of [auburnalabama.org/economic-development](http://auburnalabama.org/economic-development), or contact the department of Economic Development at (334) 501-7270 or [webecondev@auburnalabama.org](mailto:webecondev@auburnalabama.org).

### ENTREPRENEURIAL & TECHNOLOGY PROGRAMS

Creating a vibrant entrepreneurial ecosystem in Auburn

#### PROGRESSION



#### COLLABORATION



#### HOW CAN YOU PARTICIPATE?



# JUNE UP COMING EVENTS

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

1	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Composites Advisory Board 4 p.m.</li> <li>Word &amp; Meeting 5:30 p.m. at Auburn Public Library</li> <li>Summer Learning Challenge Begins</li> </ul>	2	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Baby Time 9:30 a.m., 10:30 a.m. and 1 p.m.</li> <li>Parks &amp; Recreation Advisory Board 11:45 a.m.</li> <li>Committee of the Whole 1:00</li> <li>City Council 7 p.m.</li> </ul>	3	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Toddler Time 9:30 a.m., 10:30 a.m. and 1 p.m.</li> <li>Board of Zoning Adjustment 4:30 p.m.</li> </ul>	4	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Preschool Storytime 9:30 a.m., 10:30 a.m. and 1 p.m.</li> <li>Gamer's Society 4:30 p.m.</li> </ul>	5	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Iron Commission 11:30 a.m.</li> </ul>	6	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>City Market 8-11 a.m. @ Town Creek Park</li> <li>STEM Storyline 10 a.m.</li> </ul>		
7		8		9		10		11	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Preschool Storytime 9:30 a.m., 10:30 a.m. and 1 p.m.</li> <li>Gamer's Society 4:30 p.m.</li> <li>Planning Commission 5 p.m.</li> </ul>	12	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>City Council Agenda Review 4 p.m.</li> </ul>	13	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>City Market 8-11 a.m. @ Town Creek Park</li> <li>STEM Storyline 10 a.m.</li> </ul>
14		15	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Baby Time 9:30 a.m., 10:30 a.m. and 1 p.m.</li> <li>Historic Preservation Commission 4 p.m.</li> </ul>	16	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Baby Time 9:30 a.m., 10:30 a.m. and 1 p.m.</li> <li>Greenspace Advisory Board 1:00 p.m.</li> <li>Library Board 3 p.m.</li> <li>Committee of the Whole 1:00</li> <li>City Council 7 p.m.</li> </ul>	17	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Toddler Time 9:30 a.m., 10:30 a.m. and 1 p.m.</li> </ul>	18	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Preschool Storytime 9:30 a.m., 10:30 a.m. and 1 p.m.</li> <li>Gamer's Society 4:30 p.m.</li> <li>Water Works Board 4 p.m.</li> </ul>	19		20	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>City Market 8-11 a.m. @ Town Creek Park</li> <li>STEM Storyline 10 a.m.</li> </ul>
21		22		23	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Baby Time 9:30 a.m., 10:30 a.m. and 1 p.m.</li> </ul>	24	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Toddler Time 9:30 a.m., 10:30 a.m. and 1 p.m.</li> </ul>	25		26		27	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>City Market 8-11 a.m. @ Town Creek Park</li> <li>STEM Storyline 10 a.m.</li> </ul>
28		29		30	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Baby Time 9:30 a.m., 10:30 a.m. and 1 p.m.</li> </ul>	<p>Programs and events are subject to change. Please visit <a href="http://auburnalabama.org/coronavirus">auburnalabama.org/coronavirus</a> for up-to-date information on program and event cancellations.</p>						<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Auburn Public Library <a href="http://auburnalabama.org/library">auburnalabama.org/library</a> (334) 501-3198</li> <li>City Meeting Schedule <a href="http://auburnalabama.org">auburnalabama.org</a> (334) 501-7260</li> <li>Parks and Recreation <a href="http://auburnalabama.org/parks">auburnalabama.org/parks</a> (334) 501-2930</li> </ul>	



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