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Open Line

A Monthly Newsletter for City of Auburn Citizens

April 2020

City Council

Ron Anders, Jr., Mayor
(334) 703-9000
randers@auburnalabama.org

Connie Fitch Taylor, Ward 1
(334) 704-3970
ctaylor@auburnalabama.org

Kelley Griswold, Ward 2
(256) 975-8183
kgriswold@auburnalabama.org

Beth Witten, Ward 3
(334) 740-8575
bwitten@auburnalabama.org

Brett Smith, Ward 4
(334) 740-8847
basmith@auburnalabama.org

Steven Dixon, Ward 5
(334) 707-3091
sdixon@auburnalabama.org

Bob Parsons, Ward 6
(334) 704-3657
bparsons@auburnalabama.org

Jay Hovey, Ward 7
(334) 319-6654
jhovey@auburnalabama.org

Tommy Dawson, Ward 8
(334) 559-3021
tdawson@auburnalabama.org

Open Line is produced by the Office of the City Manager
144 Tichenor Ave., Ste. 1
Auburn, AL 36830
(334) 501-7260

@CityofAuburnAL

web:
www.auburnalabama.org

email:
openline@auburnalabama.org

City of Auburn

Help shape Auburn's future through Auburn 2040

Every generation, Auburn residents have a chance to weigh in on the future of their community.

Community members from all walks of life came together in the 1980s to brainstorm, envision and create a road map for how to make their dreams for Auburn become reality. That community initiative birthed the Auburn 2000 plan. Then, as the new millennium dawned, a new group of community members embarked on another goal-setting initiative to create the Auburn 2020 plan.

Since then, Auburn has experienced tremendous prosperity. Many of the things we love about our community today started out as goals in these plans. Now is your chance to determine where we go next.

We're launching Auburn 2040 consisting of eight community teams that will think about, discuss, research and recommend what the future of Auburn should look like. All members of the community are invited to sign up through the end of March to serve on one of the following teams:

- Education
- Transportation
- Public Safety
- Intergovernmental
- Growth & Development
- Utilities, Environment & Technology
- Citizen Engagement
- Family & Community

Individuals may not serve on more than one team but may submit their top three choices during the application process. Once team members have been finalized, teams will kick off the process on April 18 at 9 a.m. From there, teams will meet throughout the summer a minimum of two to three times a month. Each team will present its recommended goals to the Auburn City Council in September, and the finalized Auburn 2040 plan will go before the City Council for adoption in December 2020.

Your participation is vital to the success of this plan. To get involved, sign up for a team and the Auburn 2040 eNotifier at auburnalabama.org/2040, and follow us on social media @CityofAuburnAL for updates throughout the process.

Introducing Police Chief Cedric Anderson

Cedric Anderson

Cedric Anderson will become Auburn's next police chief on March 1, taking the place of former Chief Paul Register's as Register moves into his new role as public safety director.

Anderson is a 27-year veteran of the Auburn Police Division and most recently served as the section chief for City operations, which included the patrol and records sections. Before he joined the Auburn Police Division, Anderson served in the U.S. Army and as a police officer for Auburn University.

A longtime area resident, Anderson is a graduate of Auburn University and holds a master's degree from Faulkner University. He served as an adjunct instructor and is currently working on his doctorate at Auburn University. Anderson has received numerous awards and recognitions over his distinguished career.

Since beginning his employment as a patrol officer in 1992, Anderson has held nearly every rank within the police division including that of a patrolman, narcotics detective, supervisor in both the patrol and detective sections, patrol lieutenant, patrol captain and has served as assistant chief since 2016. He has also served the division as a polygraph examiner and as an internal affairs investigator.

Anderson is known throughout the community and has been involved and assisted in the development of such community outreach efforts as the "Bridges" program and "Neighborhood walks." Additionally, he is well known throughout the law enforcement community and brings a wealth of experience to the position.

Will Mathews

Current Assistant Chief Will Mathews will also be promoted to deputy director of public safety over communications and emergency management effective on March 1. Matthews is a 27-year veteran of the Auburn Police Division and has served as the section chief of the Auburn University Precinct since 2016. Mathews has been involved in disaster preparedness efforts and risk/threat assessments for public and private community members including Auburn City Schools as well as Auburn University. Additionally, he played a leading role in technological advancements throughout his career by testing, procuring and implementing such improvements as in-car computers as well as radio and camera systems.

"There are no finer employees anywhere than what we have here at the City of Auburn. Will and Cedric are proof of that," said Auburn City Manager Jim Buston. "Congratulations to both of them, and I look forward to working with them in their new capacities."

Your garbage pickup day could be changing

To enhance the overall collection of recyclables, trash and household garbage, our Environmental Services Department will be implementing a new routing schedule for a portion of Auburn's residential customers. The new collection schedule will go into effect on Monday, April 6, 2020. Environmental Services personnel will begin delivering specific information related to the proposed changes via door hangers to all affected customers beginning on Monday, March 2, 2020.

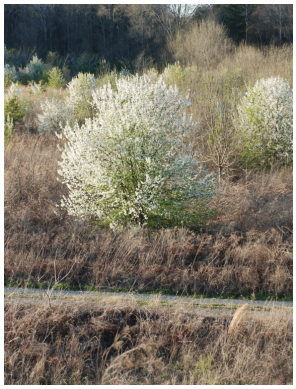
Customers may experience some delay in collection of their materials during the first few weeks of implementation as crews get acclimated to the new routing schedule. We greatly appreciate your patience during this transition period. More information will be available at auburnalabama.org/ES. If you have any questions, please contact the Environmental Services Department at (334) 501-3080 or webenvirsvc@auburnalabama.org.

Auburn Floral Trail

The annual Auburn Floral Trail will begin Monday, March 9, 2020, and run through Friday, April 17, 2020, highlighting some of the finest foliage Auburn has to offer. The trail features some common springtime flowers such as azaleas and blooming trees such as cherry and plum trees.

The 14-mile, self-guided trail is broken into a 10.5 mile South trail and a 3.5 mile North trail along with two optional sections. It takes drivers along Auburn's neighborhood streets to view trees, shrubs, flowers and more that come alive after a cold winter. Find more details and a map of the trails at auburnalabama.org/environmental-services/auburn-floral-trail.

Callery Pear Exchange



We're looking for your help to get rid of invasive species in Auburn!

To spread awareness about how the invasive Callery pear tree harms the environment and economy, we've partnered with the Alabama Cooperative Extension System and the Alabama Invasive Plant Council to provide free, native trees for property owners who remove Callery pears.

The Callery pear, (Pyrus calleryana), is native to China and was widely planted for its white spring blossoms and red fall color. Offspring of the many cultivars invade and destroy native ecosystems. These ornamental pears are notorious for weak branch angles that readily break as the tree ages. Several cultivars of Callery pear are popular, including Aristocrat, Autumn Blaze, Bradford (the commonly planted Bradford pear), Capital, Cleveland, Chanticleer, Redspire and Whitehouse.

To participate in the exchange, those interested must 1) be a property owner in the City of Auburn, 2) submit an online application by April 4 and once approved, 3) bring a photo of the cut down trees to the Auburn University Arboretum Azalea Festival on April 11.

Applicants may receive one native tree for each Callery pear they remove on their property up to five trees total. Each application will be reviewed by our urban forester to determine eligibility. Replacement trees will include plums, maples, black tupelos and cherrybark oaks and will be distributed on a first-come, first-serve basis. In addition, each participant will receive a native milkweed plant to support Auburn's native pollinators.

Applications will be accepted until April 4 at 4 p.m. The application and complete guidelines, including how to identify a Callery pear, can be found at auburnalabama.org/invasive-species.

Household Hazardous Waste Collection Day

Environmental Services will host its biannual Household Hazardous Waste Collection Day on Saturday, April 4. Auburn residents are invited to drop off materials from 9 a.m.-1 p.m. at the Environmental Services Complex at 365-A N. Donahue Drive.

During the event, the department will accept hazardous waste not accepted in regular garbage and trash collection. Computers and electronics will be accepted as well as paper documents for secure, on-site shredding. Residents may bring up to 20 pounds of material per household for disposal at no charge.

Participation is limited to Auburn residents, and you can show your proof of residency by bringing a recent water bill. A list of acceptable materials can be found at auburnalabama.org/environmental-services/household-hazardous-waste-collection-day.

2020 Census Invites Arriving in March

Between March 12 and 20, you should receive a postcard from the U.S. Census Bureau with instructions on how to make sure you're counted in the 2020 Census.

Instructions on the postcards will direct residents to complete a form either online, in paper or by telephone. Everyone is encouraged to complete their form by April 1—Census Day 2020. After April 1, census workers will go door-to-door visiting households that did not complete a form to get a complete count of Auburn residents. Getting a complete count of Auburn residents also relies on the participation of university students who live in the city.

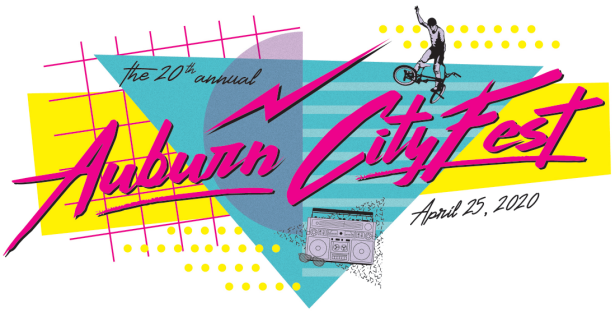
The U.S. Census occurs once a decade to count the population to provide the basis for reapportioning congressional seats, redistricting and distributing more than $674 billion in federal funds annually to support state, county and city programs. Programs supported in this way impact housing, education, transportation, employment, health care and public policy. When you make sure you, your family and everyone living in your household is counted, you help make sure Alabama receives $1,567 per person, per year for 10 years.

Rest assured that your data are confidential. Federal law protects your census responses, and your answers will only be used to produce statistics. By law, your information will not be shared with immigration enforcement agencies, law enforcement agencies or be used to determine your eligibility for government benefits.

Find more information at census.gov.

20th Annual CityFest Coming April 25

The 20th Annual Auburn CityFest will be held Saturday, April 25, from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. at Kiesel Park. This event will showcase over 100 arts and crafts vendors, 15 food vendors and nonprofit vendors. The theme for the 2020 Auburn CityFest will be "Back to the Future" with the BMX Pros Trick Team as the headlining entertainment. The team will deliver a spectacular, action-packed show featuring BMX bike tricks on the half pipe. Other attractions will include a DeLorean, Todd Key the stilt walker, bungee jumping trampolines, inflatables, a rock climbing wall and more. The musical entertainment will consist of The Riot Band, a variety band performing '80s hits, and the Auburn Community Orchestra. This event is FREE to the public!



APRIL UPCOMING EVENTS

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

View our online edition of Open Line at auburnalabama.org/openline. Find an up-to-date meeting schedule at auburnalabama.org/boards-and-commissions/meeting-schedule.

Auburn Public Library
auburnalabama.org/library
(334) 501-3198

City Meeting Schedule
auburnalabama.org
(334) 501-7260

Parks and Recreation
auburnalabama.org/parks
(334) 501-2930

			1 Toddler Time 9:30 a.m., 10:30 a.m. and 1 p.m. Board of Zoning Adjustment 4:30 p.m. Summer Program Registration Begins	**2** Preschool Storytime 9:30 a.m., 10:30 a.m. and 1 p.m. Gamer's Society 4-6:30 p.m.	**3** Puppet Shows 10:30 a.m. & 3:30 p.m. Tree Commission 11:30 a.m. City Council Agenda Review 4 p.m. Easter Egg Scavenger Hunt Begins Men/Women USTA Tennis Tournament	**4** Breakfast with the Bunny 8 a.m. @ Kiesel Park STEM Storytime 10 a.m. Men/Women USTA Tennis Tournament
5 Men/Women USTA Tennis Tournament	**6** Adult Yoga Class Noon Cemeteries Advisory Board 4 p.m. Ward 4 Meeting 5:30 p.m. at Auburn Public Library Scale Back Alabama Weigh-Out Week Begins	**7** Baby Time 9:30 a.m., 10:30 a.m. and 1 p.m. Parks & Recreation Advisory Board 11:45 a.m. Committee of the Whole TBD City Council 7 p.m.	**8** Toddler Time 9:30 a.m., 10:30 a.m. and 1 p.m. Lee County Special Olympics Area Track & Field Meet	**9** Preschool Storytime 9:30 a.m., 10:30 a.m. and 1 p.m. Gamer's Society 4-6:30 p.m. Planning Commission 5 p.m.	**10** Cops On Top Scale Back Alabama Weigh-Out Week Ends	**11** STEM Storytime 10 a.m. 39th Annual Easter Egg Hunt 10:30 a.m. @ Kiesel Park
12	**13** Adult Yoga Class Noon	**14** Baby Time 9:30 a.m., 10:30 a.m. and 1 p.m. Historic Preservation Commission 4 p.m. Board of Education 6 p.m.	**15** Toddler Time 9:30 a.m., 10:30 a.m. and 1 p.m.	**16** Preschool Storytime 9:30 a.m., 10:30 a.m. and 1 p.m. Gamer's Society 4-6:30 p.m. Water Works Board 4 p.m	**17** City Market Applications Due For Summer 2020	**18** City Market Strawberry Festival 8 a.m. @ Town Creek Park STEM Storytime 10 a.m. Middle School Book Club 1:30 p.m.
19	**20** Adult Yoga Class Noon Sports Camp Registration Begins	**21** Baby Time 9:30 a.m., 10:30 a.m. and 1 p.m. Greenspace Advisory Board Noon Library Board 3 p.m. Committee of the Whole TBD City Council 7 p.m.	**22** Toddler Time 9:30 a.m., 10:30 a.m. and 1 p.m.	**23** Preschool Storytime 9:30 a.m., 10:30 a.m. and 1 p.m. Gamer's Society 4-6:30 p.m. Juried Art Show & Preview Reception 5:30 p.m. @ Kiesel Park	**24**	**25** Auburn CityFest 2020 9 a.m. @ Kiesel Park STEM Storytime 10 a.m. Every Child Ready to Read Parent Workshop 2 p.m.
26	**27** Adult Yoga Class Noon	**28** Baby Time 9:30 a.m., 10:30 a.m. and 1 p.m.	**29** Toddler Time 9:30 a.m., 10:30 a.m. and 1 p.m.	**30** Preschool Storytime 9:30 a.m., 10:30 a.m. and 1 p.m. Gamer's Society 4-6:30 p.m.	City of Auburn	

MANAGEMENT TEAM

James C. Buston, III
City Manager
501-7261
jbuston@auburnalabama.org

Megan McGowen Crouch
Assistant City Manager, COO
501-7262
mmcgowen@auburnalabama.org

Community Services
Alfred Davis, Director
501-7280
adavis@auburnalabama.org

Development Services
Scott Cummings
Executive Director
501-7380
scummings@auburnalabama.org

Economic Development
Phillip Dunlap, Director
501-7270
pdunlap@auburnalabama.org

Engineering Services
Alison Frazier, Director
501-7390
afrazier@auburnalabama.org

Environmental Services
Catrina Cook, Director
501-3080
ccook@auburnalabama.org

Finance
Allison Edge, Director
501-7233
aedge@auburnalabama.org

Human Resources
Kristen Reeder, Director
501-7240
kreeder@auburnalabama.org

Information Technology
Greg Nelson, CIO
501-7208
gnelson@auburnalabama.org

Inspection Services
John Hoar, Director
501-3170
jhoar@auburnalabama.org

Auburn Public Library
Chris Warren, Director
501-3190
cwarren@auburnalabama.org

Municipal Court
Jim McLaughlin, Judge
501-3180
jmclaughlin@auburnalabama.org

Parks and Recreation
Rebecca O. Richardson, Director
501-2930
brichardson@auburnalabama.org

Planning
Forrest E. Cotten, Director
501-3040
fcotten@auburnalabama.org

Public Safety
Paul Register
501-3110
pregister@auburnalabama.org

Public Works
Timothy L. Woody, Director
501-3000
twoody@auburnalabama.org

Water Resource Management
Eric A. Carson, Director
501-3060
ecarson@auburnalabama.org

Public Affairs
David D. Dorton, Director
501-7266
ddorton@auburnalabama.org