**December Tennis Program Sessions Available**

City of Auburn Tennis Courts!

Join us at the Auburn Tennis Courts for Group Lessons! Group Tennis Classes available All Ability Levels

MONDAYS: December 4, 11 (2 lessons—Only $10 per Lesson!) - $20

(Professional Tennis Registry) Certified Professional Instructor Josh Hones

5:00pm-6:00pm Little Champs Tennis (4-8 yrs, youth) 6:00pm-7:00pm Future Champs Tennis—Junior Development I (9-12 yrs, old) 7:00pm-8:00pm Competitive Champs Tennis—Junior Development II (For players 13-18 of all abilities, striving toward a higher level of play through competition.

To register for Group Tennis Lessons or to request more information, please contact: Josh Hones: tenniswithjosh@gmail.com - 770-547-8647

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**Juggernaut cycles**

Motorcycle Service & Customization
130 Auburn Park Dr., Ste. D
Auburn, GA 30011

Juggernautcycles@gmail.com

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**Fence America**

Commercial & Residential Fencing

James Brignam
jabrigman@hotmail.com

678-698-8926

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**OWLS Luncheon**

(Older Wiser Laughing Seniors)

Monday, December 11, 2017—11:30 am

Midway United Methodist Church

This monthly luncheon is the “don’t miss” event for those age 50 and better. Bring a side dish or dessert to share!

This month: Christmas Dinner with New Horizons Band performing

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**2018 Spring Baseball & Softball Registration**

NOW OPEN

**Registration starts November 4, 2017 and ends February 3, 2018**

All Players Welcome! Player Registration Fees include team jersey and hat, player insurance, umpire, field maintenance & other associated playing fees. Additional fees may be required by individual teams. No out-of-county fees. Registration forms can be downloaded at www.cityofauburn- ga.org/parks.aspx

Rookie
age 2-3 years
$ 75.00

T-Ball through Majors
age 5-12 years
$ 99.00

Dixie Boys
age 13-19 years
$150.00

For more information, contact Parks & Leisure Director Dan Puelas at 770-963-4002 ext 230 or email parksdirector@cityofauburn-ga.org

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**Tis the Season to Shop Local**

Support local small businesses by shopping local. Visit Downtown Auburn’s small businesses and help keep your spending dollars in our local community. Did you know that Auburn has almost 400 licensed businesses—many of them home-based?

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**City of Auburn**

Auburn, GA 30011

www.cityofauburn-ga.org

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**Facebook Us**

Like

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**PEOPLE**

Looking for the Presence of Christmas!

I love this time of year and really enjoy every minute of it. Some complain it has become too commercialized but as always I remain steadfast that it is what we allow to remain in our hearts that determines our views. I guess I really look for Christmas all year long and I am happy to say I am never disappointed. I always enjoy the season.

I know so many people that exude a spirit of giving and selflessness. At a time of year when many are self-focused, these precious ones are working like Santa’s elves gathering as much help, revenue, donations and food as they can to help others. I could name them but they wouldn’t be very happy about that. They don’t do it for acclaim, far from it, they have a heart for people.

Sometimes it can feel overwhelming. There are so many needs in our own communities that we can’t possibly individually meet every need. We can, however, meet A need. It may not feel like you’re doing much but one meal, one toy, one blanket, or one pair of shoes can make a huge impact!

I will list some local ministries and churches that are already working toward meeting people’s needs. You and I - our community—can make a difference! Sometimes much more than you ever could imagine!

Auburn Police Department works closely with City Hall to provide Christmas gifts to the most needy in our community. Our police officers respond to the calls for help and interact with families on a daily basis. With their heart for the community, they help us find families who are most in need.

Barrow County Family Connection runs the annual Holiday Connection. This is a collaborative effort between Barrow County Schools, local churches, and organizations to make sure all our families get Christmas. Serving almost 2,000 children annually, this is best way to help in our community. Contact Barrow County Family Connection at 770-868-2910 to donate or to adopt a family for Christmas. You can also volunteer your time as an “elf” to help the families shop at the Holiday Connection store.

The Streetwise program assists families in our local trailer parks with clothing, food, gifts for Christmas and so much more. They are based out of Lawrenceville and work year-round to keep at risk families safe and healthy. You can contact Streetwise at (678) 985-9952. They are gearing up for Christmas giving now!

Did you know there is a mobile food pantry in Winder? The mobile pantries are held 4th Thursday of each month except they are not on the 3rd Thursday November & December. They are for anyone in Barrow County with a valid ID who meets certain income guidelines, but no proof of income is required. Food can be picked up at the SaveALot parking lot. Donations are always welcome.

The Barrow County Veterans Resource Center in Winder offers assistance to veterans through the holidays and the rest of the year with food, clothing, and gifts. You can contact the center at (470) 209-1761.

The City of Auburn also participates in the annual Mayor’s Motorcade to support residents of the State’s Mental Health Institutions. Many of these folks are not remembered over the holidays so we collect items on their behalf. Adult clothing (sweat pants—no strings, socks, underewear, t-shirts, slippers), games (card or board games—no video games), crafts and other items are accepted at City Hall until December 15.

Remember to be kind to others, a smile is a free gift that keeps on giving. So, Merry Christmas and Happy Holidays, may your New Year be filled with joy and smiles and opportunities to help others!
Auburn Library Programs & Events

December 1, 8, 15, 22 at 11AM: Adult Coloring
December 2 at 3PM: Lego Club
December 4, 11, 18, 26, 13, 27 at 11:15AM: Ready to Read - Pre K Story Time
December 4, 11, 18 at 1PM: Stitch, Knit and Crochet Club: Bring yarn and knitting needles
December 6, 13, 20, 27 at 11:30AM: Auburn Lapsit Story Time – up to 2 years
December 7, 14, 21, 28 at 5PM: Auburn Teen Nights
December 7 at 6PM: Coding Club
December 9 at 12PM: Saturday Crafternoon
December 11 at 11PM: Cover to Cover Book Club
December 13 at 5PM: Auburn Teen Nights
December 14 at 6PM: Downtown Development Authority
December 20 at 6PM: Planning & Zoning
December 21 at 6PM: City Council Workshop
December 22 at 11/26—City Offices Closed

Auburn Parks & Leisure Commission
is devoted to bringing the best in leisure programming to Auburn. From Auburn Youth Athletics Baseball Programs and the Tennis program to the Auburn OWLS (Older Wiser Laughing Seniors) to green space parks—there is something for everyone.

December 11—OWLS Luncheon—11:30 am—Midway United Methodist Church– Christmas Dinner featuring the New Horizons Band
December 13—Parks & Leisure Commission

Welcome to Our New Police Chief
Christopher Hodge

The City of Auburn bid a fond farewell to Chief Carl Moulder who retired in November. We are proud to announce the appointment of Christopher Hodge as Auburn’s new Chief of Police.

Chief Hodge has worked in law enforcement for over 20 years with 7 years of investigative work in Kabul, Afghanistan. He graduated Cum Laude from Liberty University with a dual degree in Criminal Justice and Health Services. During Chief Hodge’s law enforcement career, he has worked and managed personnel in the Uniform Patrol Division, the Criminal Investigations Division (CID), Professional Standards Unit, Internal Affairs and Special Operations K-9 Unit. An employee of the City of Auburn since 2014, he was serving as the CID Commander when he was appointed to the Chief’s Position.

The City is proud to welcome Chief Hodge to the helm of our Police Department. We believe he will continue Chief Moulder’s legacy of Community Policing with a commitment to high ethical standards.

Free GED Classes In Auburn

If you’re among the 39 or more million adults in the U.S. who never graduated from high school, then you’ve probably considered getting your GED® certificate, the adult learner’s alternative to a high school diploma. The GED certificate is worth considering, and it’s a credential worth earning. The City of Auburn has a successful partnership with Lanier Technical Institute to offer free GED Classes to anyone 16 or over that needs to earn it.

Having the GED certificate opens up a lot of doors for advanced training. Most specialized training programs require either a high school diploma or a GED. Also with GED certificate, you’ll be eligible for most workplace or on-the-job training programs, along with higher educational opportunities.

Consider the impact on your family. Your family benefits because a GED certificate is a way to increase financial security. Research also shows that once parents get a GED certificate, they’re more likely to encourage their children to seek educational opportunities and complete educational milestones.

Classes are held morning and evenings in Auburn at the J.D. Willers building near Auburn Elementary. These will move to the new Auburn Center in early 2018. There is no cost to attend classes, and there are scholarships available to pay for the GED test.

English as a Second Language courses will also be available at the Auburn location. The Winder Campus will offer Citizenship Classes too.

For more information call 770/531-3361—Start today!