

Monday, January 15, 2018

OWLS Luncheon
 (Older Wiser Laughing Seniors)
 Wednesday, January 17, 2018—11:30 am
 JD Withers Building
 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: Trip Planning &
 Games


AUBURN
 1369 Fourth Avenue
 P.O. Box 1059
 Auburn, GA 30011
 770-963-4002
 www.cityofauburn-ga.org



**January 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: January 8, 15, 22, 29 (4 lessons—Only \$10 per Lesson!) - \$40

(Professional Tennis Registry) Certified Professional Instructor Josh Honea
 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 Honea: tenniswithjosh@gmail.com - 770-547-8647



Auburn Youth Athletics
**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, umpires, 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 3-4 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 Pruehs at 770-963-4002 ext 230 or email parksdirector@cityofauburn-ga.org.

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 470-545-1121
 Motorcycle Service & Customization
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 Auburn, GA 30011
 Juggernautcycles.com
 juggernautsgarage@gmail.com

Fence America

Commercial & Residential Fencing
 James Brigman
 jabrigman@hotmail.com
 678-698-8926

January 2018

Volume 10, Issue 1

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Auburn

Messenger

PEOPLE

PASSION

PROGRESS

The Mayor's Corner



Mayor Linda Blechinger

Another year is in the books! I hope that everyone had a wonderful Christmas and New Year celebration. This is a time of New Year Resolutions and planning for the year and at the City of Auburn we are eagerly looking forward to what 2018 will bring.

We made great progress in 2017 with the building of the new Bike Park on Mt. Moriah, the completion of the newest Whistlestop Shops, and the rehabilitation of the R&R into the new Auburn Center. With the renewal of the Special Purpose Local Option Sales Tax (SPLOST), plans are moving forward for another big project in Auburn. With SPLOST allocations, a specific set of projects are submitted during the process and these funds can only be used on these projects.

The 2018 SPLOST projects include a new City Hall/Municipal Complex. Auburn has grown up around the railroad. Did you know that at one time there was a train depot on the corner of Mt. Moriah and Highway 8? The rail coming through here beginning in 1891 was responsible for much of the City's growth. The railroad is a blessing in many ways to our community. It provides efficient transfer of goods, boosting our economy and will lead to future business growth in Auburn. The railroad also provides the City with some challenges as anyone who has been at the railroad crossing for a long train can attest. One challenge that most don't consider is the possibility of a derailment. Auburn has been extremely fortunate in this area due in large part to the safety planning by the railroad. In the event of a derailment, the close proximity to the Police Department and City Hall could hamper emergency response as well as the functions of the City. The Comprehensive Plan for the City, formulated with input from citizens across the community, calls for a new municipal complex. Planning for this complex has been in works and, with the new SPLOST, will hopefully soon become a reality. The City has purchased 14 acres near Auburn Elementary School and Highway 8 to build this new complex. The Auburn Downtown Development Authority is developing a public/private partnership to help transform the 14 acres into a new municipal complex that will include a new City Hall, Court, and Police Department. Developed from the original plans for the historic Perry-Rainey Institute, a college located in Auburn in the early 1900s, we are truly excited to be moving forward on this project.

Speaking of the Comprehensive plan, the City periodically reviews and updates the Comprehensive Plan for the City. This is the blueprint for the City's future and we are currently working on the update. We work very closely with the Northeast Georgia Regional Commission to come up with a five year plan by looking at our needs and opportunities, Community Goals, Land Use, Transportation and a work program. Using this as our road map, the City moves forward in planning the future of our City.

Plans are also in the works for the Local Maintenance and Improvement Grant (LMIG) proceeds. These funds are used to repair and improve roads in our community. One of our main concerns is the condition of Cronic Town Road. We continue to work with State, Federal and Local agencies to get funding for this much-needed project.

City staff are always working to accomplishing the goals set by citizens just like you in the comprehensive plan. Want to be part of the process? Volunteer for a board or attend your City Council Meetings on the 1st and 3rd Thursdays of each month at 6PM. We are wishing you all a wonderful new year full of progress, hope and accomplishment!



Auburn Library Programs & Events

January 1—Library closed
 January 4 at 11:30AM: Between the Pages Adult Book Club
 January 4, 11, 18, 25 at 5PM: Teen Nights
 January 4 at 6PM: Coding Club
 January 5, 12, 19, 26 at 11AM: Adult Coloring
 January 6 at 3PM: Lego Club
 January 8, 15, 22, 29 at 11:15AM: Ready to Read - Pre K Story Time
 January 8, 15, 22, 29 at 1PM: Stitch, Knit and Crochet Club: Bring yarn and knitting needles
 January 9 at 5PM: Teen Writing Club
 January 10, 17, 24, 31 at 11:30AM: Auburn Lapsit Story Time—up to 2 years
 January 13 at 11AM: What the Heck is a Bullet Journal
 January 13 at 12PM: Saturday Crafternoon
 January 15—Library Closed for Martin Luther King Jr Day
 January 22 at 5PM: Auburn—Maker Monday
 January 22 at 5PM: Friends of the Library Meeting
 January 27 at 4PM: Bookworms Book Club for Tweens

Auburn Public Library
 24 Fifth Street, Auburn,
 770-513-2925
www.prlib.org



MEETINGS CALENDAR

All meetings are held in the Council Chambers located at 1361 4th Avenue (next to the Police Station) unless otherwise noted—meeting times, locations & dates are subject to change

01/01 City Offices closed
 01/04 at 6PM: City Council Business Meeting
 01/10 at 6:30PM: Parks & Leisure Commission
 01/11 at 6PM: Downtown Development Authority
 01/15 City Offices Closed for Martin Luther King Jr Day
 01/17 at 6PM: Planning & Zoning
 01/18 at 6PM: City Council Workshop

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 getting. 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.

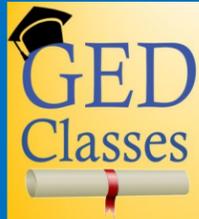
Having the GED certificate opens up a lot of doors for advanced training. Most specialized training programs require either a high school diploma or a GED. Also with GED certificate, you'll be eligible for most workplace or on-the-job training programs, along with higher educational opportunities.

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. Withers 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 offering Citizenship Classes too.

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



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 Tree Maintenance

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.
 January 17—OWLS Luncheon—11:30 am—OWLS Luncheon
 January 10—Parks & Leisure Commission

What is Code Enforcement?

The City of Auburn Code Enforcement officer is responsible for enforcing a variety of Planning and Development related ordinances and regulations. The City has Code Enforcement Officer Paige Winkler to investigate complaints and help maintain a high quality of life in the City of Auburn. Officer Winkler works to maintain the City's status as a clean, livable city by ensuring that all properties comply with standards set by the Mayor and City Council. It is the City's policy to ensure compliance with City ordinances by investigating and resolving reported violations of City code. The City will work to assure code compliance by both encouraging voluntary compliance with property owners and by taking enforcement action, if necessary, against code violators who do not comply. The City recognizes that this goal is most effectively achieved through the education of, and cooperation with, the citizens of Auburn.

Some of the most common reported violations include:

- | | |
|-------------------------------|---|
| Abandoned/junk vehicles | Accumulation of rubbish or garbage |
| Illegal signs | Illegal home occupation |
| Overgrown grass/ weeds | Zoning violations |
| Fences or walls in disrepair | Open and outdoor storage |
| Parking on an unpaved surface | Building or demolition without a permit |

Code Enforcement is important to the safety and beauty of our fine City. Code violations can be reported through the City website at <http://www.cityofauburn-ga.org/ReportaConcern.aspx>.

TAKE A DIP... IN STORMWATER



STORMWATER POLLUTANTS FIND THEIR WAY INTO WHERE WE FISH, WHAT WE DRINK, AND WHERE WE SWIM.

Image courtesy of Alliance for Aquatic Resource Monitoring (ALLARM) stormwater campaign.