

HAPPY
Thanksgiving

No OWLS Luncheon in November!

(Older Wiser Laughing Seniors)
We will have a Holiday Celebration on Wednesday, December 12 at 11:30 am at the New Auburn Center, 16 College Street

Bring a side dish or dessert to share. White Elephant Gift Exchange (limit \$10 please)
Need more information? Call Michelle at 770-963-4002 ext 204

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

www.cityofauburn-ga.org



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

MONDAYS: November 5, 12, 19, 26 \$30 (4 lessons—Only \$10 per Lesson!)

November Tennis Program Sessions Available at City of Auburn Tennis Courts!

with PTR (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

The City of Auburn Welcomes New Staff

To keep up with the demands of our growing community, the City of Auburn is pleased to announce that Josh Campbell has joined our team as the Community Development Coordinator. Married to Shanna, Josh is a 2018 graduate of the University of Georgia. As Community Development Coordinator, Josh is our liaison with local businesses, assists with business and alcohol licenses and is our Main Street representative. He will also be the contact for the Community Yard Sale, Farmer's Market and Movies in Whistlestop Park. Josh will be stepping in to assist in the numerous events that the City of Auburn hosts each year. Drop in to City Hall and welcome Josh to the City!



The City is also proud to announce that Michael Parks has stepped in as Parks & Leisure Director. Michael will be in charge of our seven parks and will develop programming for our citizens. His responsibilities will include our popular OWLS (Older, Wiser, Laughing Seniors) program and Auburn Youth Athletics. Keep an eye on our parks for expanded programming, upgrades to the ballfields and more! Michael grew up in the City of Auburn. Michael's father, Billy, and grandfather, Roy, both served as mayor's for the city. Michael currently lives in Winder with his wife, Beth, and four children. He is a graduate of Mercer University (BBA), Walden University (MS), and Lincoln-Memorial University (Ed.S). He also received his educational requirements from the University of Georgia before becoming a teacher. As an educator for 20 years, he worked in both Barrow County and Gwinnett. While working in education, he coached recreation, travel, and school teams in various sports. His love for athletics, young people, and the City of Auburn is what attracted him to become the new Parks & Leisure Director.



Older Wiser Laughing Seniors (OWLS) Cookbook Coming Soon!

Do you have a delicious recipe that everyone tells you is the best they ever had? Are you the keeper of the family recipe cards with Great Grandma Sadie's apple butter recipe? The Auburn OWLS are collecting recipes for a cookbook to be published this fall. Recipes can be mailed to City of Auburn, Attn: Michelle, PO Box 1059, Auburn, GA 30011 or via email mwalker@cityofauburn-ga.org



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Auburn Messenger



PEOPLE

PASSION

PROGRESS

The Mayor's Corner

November is here! It feels like we went straight from summer to winter weather-wise, but it has been a relief to get away from the hot, muggy summer. We now can start snuggling near the campfire or enjoying a toasty cup of hot chocolate on a cold, crisp evening with our families.

We recently hosted the 26th Annual AuburnFest Celebration. This is our premier hometown celebration with games and activities for the children, tests of strength, and demonstrations of skills such as blacksmithing, wood turning and chainsaw carving. The pie eating contest was hilarious! Our Trains and Flames Backyard BBQ competition was a great hit again with lots of friendly boasts of whose barbecue was the best. Outstanding pies were submitted for the pie baking contest with an assortment of canned items from jams to pickles and spiced pears. Craft and food vendors were on hand including Margarita's Fresh Mex and our local Barrow County Veterans cooking up hot dogs and hamburgers. No one went away hungry!

AuburnFest and our other events are wonderful, family-friendly events. We are committed to our community and thankful that we can offer a safe environment for our families. Please mark your calendars for the next big event: Sounding Off the Christmas Season! Set for Saturday, December 1 at 5pm, Santa will come in escorted by his LIVE reindeer. Free photos with Santa, crafts for the children, and live music will keep you and your family enjoying the start of the Holiday season. We are proud to announce that the Ice Skating Rink will be back in Whistlestop Park! Come out and skate on the rink, get some hot chocolate and relax to the music of our local churches and the Yargo Community Concert Band.

November is a time to give thanks. One of my favorite times of year, Thanksgiving is a time to gather with family and friends, to celebrate each other and the blessings in our lives. I am thankful for each of you and hope that your Thanksgiving is filled with joy!

"Gratitude unlocks the fullness of life. It turns what we have into enough, and more. It turns denial into acceptance, chaos to order, confusion to clarity. It can turn a meal into a feast, a house into a home, a stranger into a friend. Gratitude makes sense of our past, brings peace for today and creates a vision for tomorrow." — Melody Beattie



Mayor Linda Blechinger

Sounding Off the Christmas Season is Saturday, December 1, 2018 at 5PM

Come out to our magical celebration and kick off of the Christmas Season. Set for Saturday, December 1, we will have live music, dancers, craft vendors, food and SANTA! The Live Nativity is a family tradition in Auburn. Santa arrives with his Live Reindeer and will be visiting with children throughout the evening. Free photos with Santa! The Whistlestop Shop Park will be the location of the Ice Skating Rink again this year. Come out and enjoy a great evening with your family and help us light the Christmas Tree with a little Christmas magic.



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

- 11/01 at 6PM: City Council Business Meeting
- 11/08 at 6PM: Downtown Development Authority
- 11/12—City Offices Closed for Veterans Day
- 11/14 at 6PM: Parks & Leisure Commission
- 11/15 at 6PM: City Council Workshop
- 11/22-11/23—Thanksgiving Holiday—City Office Closed

Best Performing Landscape Plants

Georgia summers can be tough on landscape plants. That's why the University of Georgia Trial Gardens wait until the end of the summer to release its annual list of best-performing varieties. Each year the gardens' staff recognizes the plants that best weathered Georgia's heat and humidity with the Trial Gardens' Classic City Awards. This year, after a soggy start to the summer and a very dry end, the staff selected plants that were tougher than most, said Brandon Coker, manager of the gardens.

Begonia 'Canary Wings,' Ball Ingenuity—'Canary Wings' is a novel shade-loving begonia that brought bright and vibrant color to shady spots with chartreuse leaves and bright red flowers. It's an exceptional plant for both containers and in-ground plantings.

Calibrachoa Superbells 'Holy Smokes!,' Proven Winners—With white petals and what seems to be watercolor-like purple/blue swatches and yellow centers, 'Holy Smokes!' looked great all summer.

Calibrachoa Lia 'White,' Danziger—The Calibrachoa Lia 'White' has been in full bloom for months. Medium-sized pure white petals with yellow throats make a great addition to containers or hanging baskets and helps all the other colors pop.

Echinacea Sombrero 'Tres Amigos,' Darwin Perennials—In the gardens, Echinacea Sombrero 'Tres Amigos' transitioned through three distinct colors that emerged from peachy-coral to rose and finished with a hint of burgundy. These colors look like something from a book or movie, but they are real. The plants perform well in full sun and can take drier soil conditions.

Euphorbia Crystal White, Green Fuse Botanicals—Euphorbia is a well-known landscape plant, especially in hot parts of the country where it thrives. Crystal White has a desirable shape that's about half the size of other popular varieties on the market. Only about a foot tall it packs a punch with flower production and has very tight branching. The plant first bloomed in April and was still in full bloom in early September.

Gaillardia SpinTop, 'Red Starburst,' Dummer Orange—The flowers on this plant exude color with their red centers that burst into a red/orange and finish with bright yellow tips. This plant would make an excellent border plant or container planting.

Impatiens New Guinea Harmony Radiance 'Hot Pink,' Danziger—Hot pink is a vast understatement; something more like 'Hot Hot Hot Pink' is better suited to Impatiens New Guinea Harmony Radiance 'Hot Pink.' This plant was grown in a location getting no more than four hours of sun in the morning, and it is thriving. This plant will light up the dark corners of mature landscapes with exceptional color.

Pelargonium Calliope 'Large Rose Mega Splash,' Syngenta Flowers—This plant is a showy pink geranium with rose starbursts at the center of the flowers. In containers, hanging baskets or in-ground plantings, 'Large Rose Mega Splash' produces flowers non-stop through the Georgia summer heat.

Petunia Dekko 'Star Coral,' Syngenta Flowers—'Star Coral' topped the gardens' list of petunias this year simply because it has bloomed the longest and had the best overall shape. The hot pink coral-colored blooms have a touch of white in the petals that gives them a dramatic coloration.

Portulaca Hot Shots 'Tangerine Glow,' Green Fuse Botanical—This plant is in a league of its own! The gardens' planting of 'Tangerine Glow' took over an area 6 foot long by 3 foot wide, displaying bright tangerine blooms with scorching yellow centers that open in the morning and close in the afternoon.

Salvia Skyscraper 'Pink,' Selecta—This salvia produced flowers with pale magenta calyx followed by a bright pink corolla that emerged to tower over the lush dark green foliage on this unique cultivar.

Solenostemon ColorBlaze 'Torchlight,' Proven Winners' - Torchlight' has superior qualities in every way, from its lush storybook like green with red and hot pink-veined leaves to its seemingly indestructible growth habit. This plant is also very responsive to trimming. Every time the gardens' staff pruned the plants, the new leaves came back with increased color.

For more information on selecting plants for your garden, contact your Gwinnett County Extension Office at www.uqaextension.com/gwinnett or 678-377-4010.

Auburn Library Programs & Events

- November 1 at 11:30AM: Between the Pages Adult Book Club
- November 1, 8, 15, 29 at 5PM: Auburn Teen Nights
- November 3 at 3PM: Auburn Lego Club
- November 5, 19, 26 at 11AM: Stitch, Knit and Crochet Club: Bring yarn and knitting needles
- November 5, 26 at 11:15AM: Ready to Read - Pre K Story Time
- November 7, 14, 28 at 11:30AM: Auburn Lapsit Story Time— up to 2 years
- November 10 at 12PM: Saturday Crafternoon
- November 12—Library Closed for Veterans Day
- November 14 at 6PM: Cover to Cover Book Club
- November 17 at 10AM: Games at the Library
- November 19 at 5PM: Friends of the Library Meeting
- November 22 & 23—Library Closed for Thanksgiving
- November 29 at 7PM; Well Red Book Club
- November 30 at 5PM: Movie and a Book Club



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

Auburn Parks & Leisure Commission

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

- November 8-10: OWLS Train Trip
- November 14—Parks & Leisure Commission—6PM



Stormwater: It affects us all!

It's no joke: whatever enters a storm drain flows directly into our local waters, directly affecting whatever lives there or uses the water for things such as drinking. The storm drain system provides no filters or treatment – What *are* we thinking?

Help keep your waters clean with these simple steps:

- Never dump, wash, or rake anything into the path of storm drains
- Sweep, don't hose, your driveway or other paved surfaces
- Consider using downspout extenders to direct water onto your lawn instead of pavement



Adult Literacy Barrow Announces GED and ESL Classes Have Resumed in Auburn.

After a break for the summer, Adult Literacy Barrow announces that the free GED classes and English as a Second Language Classes have resumed in Auburn. Classes for GED are held Tuesday and Thursday nights from 5:30 to 8:30 pm in the JD Withers Building (7 7th Street, Auburn). For more information on GED classes, call 770-531-3361 or visit www.adultliteracybarrow.org.

Classes for English as a Second Language will be held on Monday and Wednesday evenings from 5:30 to 8:00 pm also in the JD Withers Building. Ingrid Sandez will be the instructor. Please call 404-438-8508 with any questions.

Ballet, Hip-Hop, Jazz, Musical Theater, Tap, and more, for toddlers through adults!

We also offer themed birthday parties!

Office: 678-863-3220

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<http://ngschoolofdance.wixsite.com/ballet>

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Gift Shopping at It's Finest! Whistlestop Shops Welcomes New Shops!

Come visit the Whistlestop Shops and see our shops. You will find a gift for just about any person on your list. From hand crafted jewelry to home made goodies and handmade gifts, the Whistlestop Shops can be your one stop shop for the holidays.

We are proud to welcome our newest shop owners Christa and Heather at Vintage Beauty. They will be offering stylist, makeup and barber services.

Shop Local—Support Local Businesses!

We are very pleased to see the shop owners thrive in downtown Auburn. After you visit the Whistlestop Shops, take a stroll down 4th Avenue and visit Hue Graphics for custom gift ideas. Grab a bite at Rocky's and visit Katelyn at Rawhide Boots. There is something for everyone on your gift list!