

Happy Hanukkah



OWLS Luncheon

(Older Wiser Laughing Seniors)
Wednesday, December 12—11:30 am
Auburn Center, 16 College Street
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 Live Music!



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

www.cityofauburn-ga.org

**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 3, 10, 17 (3 lessons—Only \$10 per Lesson!) - \$30



(Professional Tennis Registry) Certified Professional Instructor Josh Honea

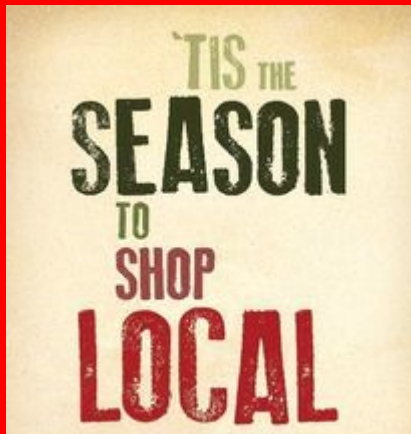
5:00pm-6:00pm **Little Champs Tennis** (4-8 yrs, youth)

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

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?



Volunteers Needed at the Museum!

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Want to learn more about Auburn’s History? Have a few hours to volunteer? The Auburn Museum needs volunteers to help staff our facility. Shifts are from 1-4pm, Tuesday and Thursdays. Interested? Contact Josh Campbell at jcampbell@cityofauburn-ga.org, or call 770-963-4002 ext 206

Ballet, Hip-Hop, Jazz, Musical Theater, Tap, and more, for toddlers through adults! We also offer themed birthday parties!
Office: 678-863-3220
1359 4th Avenue, Historic Auburn, GA 30011
<http://nyschoolofdance.wixsite.com/ballet>

North Georgia School of Dance

AUBURN MUSIC STUDIO LLC



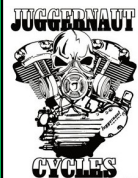
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juggernautsgarage@gmail.com

Fence America



Commercial & Residential Fencing

James Brigman
jbrigman@hotmail.com
678-698-8926

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Auburn Messenger

PEOPLE

PASSION

PROGRESS

The Mayor's Corner



Mayor Linda Blechinger

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 "find" it every year.

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 could ever 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 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 Holly Hill 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) 209-7761.

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, underwear, 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 at 2PM: Local Author Signing
 December 1 at 3PM: Lego Club
 December 3, 10, 17 at 11:15AM: Ready to Read - Pre K Story Time
 December 3, 10, 17 at 1PM: Stitch, Knit and Crochet Club: Bring yarn and knitting needles
 December 3 at 5PM: Santa at the Library
 December 5, 12, 19 at 11:30AM: Auburn Lapsit Story Time—up to 2 years
 December 6, at 11:30AM: Between the Pages Adult Book Club
 December 6, 13, 20 at 5PM: Auburn Teen Nights
 December 7 at 6PM: Teen Holiday Party
 December 8 at 12PM: Saturday Crafternoon
 December 10 at 6PM: Cover to Cover Book Club
 December 17 at 5PM: Friends of the Auburn Library
 December 19 at 1PM: Write On!
 December 22 at 2PM: Pajamas & Popcorn Movie Matinee
 December 25: Library Closed

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



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



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

12/06 at 6PM: City Council Business Meeting
 12/12 at 6:30PM: Parks & Leisure Commission
 12/13 at 6PM: Downtown Development Authority
 12/19 at 6PM: Planning & Zoning
 12/20 at 6PM: City Council Workshop
 12/25 and 12/26—City Offices Closed

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.

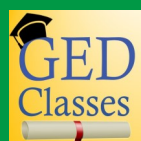
Having the GED certificate opens up a lot of doors for advanced training. Most specialized training programs require either a high school diploma or a GED. Also with GED certificate, you'll be eligible for most workplace or on-the-job training programs, along with higher educational opportunities.

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 Auburn Center, 16 College Street next to Auburn Elementary. 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!



Whistlestop Park Ice Skating Rink is open through New Year's Eve! Come down for a family visit. Interested in hosting a party at the rink? Contact Josh Campbell at 770-963-4002 ext 206 or jcampbell@cityofauburn-ga.org

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 12—OWLS Luncheon—11:30 am—Auburn Center— Christmas Dinner featuring live music!
 December 12—Parks & Leisure Commission

Chief's Corner

With Christmas fast approaching, everyone is busy and it is easy to become distracted. As you head out to the stores for your annual shopping, the Auburn Police Department is offering some tips to keep you safe. Have a safe Christmas!

- Stay alert when using electronic devices. Limit your distractions.
- Always be alert to your surroundings and have your keys in your hand as you approach your vehicle.
- Park Smart: Help avoid vehicle break-ins, leave nothing visible in your car. Consider moving your vehicle to a different location each time you load packages in the trunk.
- Keep your wallet in a hard-to-reach place and carry only the cash and credit cards that you will need to complete your shopping.
- If someone demands your purse, wallet, or packages, surrender them, make note of the suspect's description and direction they flee and call 911. Property can be replaced.
- "If you see something, say something." If you witness criminal activity or see something or someone suspicious, flag down a police officer, call 911 or contact security.
- Shop with a companion, especially after dark, whenever possible.
- Shield your PIN when using ATMs or other electronic devices in public.



Chief Chris Hodge

