



Community Yard Sale

Saturday, July 13, 2019  
Burel Park—4th Avenue  
1st Come-1st Serve spaces

### OWLS Day Trip Medieval Times

(Older Wiser Laughing Seniors)  
Wednesday, July 17, 2019—9 am  
Meet at City Hall - cost \$30 (includes lunch  
and transportation)

RSVP to Michelle  
mwalker@cityofauburn-ga.org  
770-963-4002 ext 204



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

www.cityofauburn-ga.org

July 2019

Volume 10, Issue 7

Facebook Us



# Auburn Messenger



PEOPLE

PASSION

PROGRESS

## The Mayor's Corner

Summer is here! With rising temperatures, plans for vacation, reunions, relaxation and everyday life, the slow-down-and-enjoy-life plans can sometimes be put aside. We live in a world with 24 hour news, social media and television. When was the last time you just “were?” Have you planned a mental health moment for yourself? We all need it—no matter what your family or work situation is. Take a moment and breathe. Take care of yourself first or you will have nothing left to give to others. Self-care is not selfishness. You simply cannot serve from an empty vessel. Truer words might not be found these days. Thinking about all that is going on in our world, I have been very reflective of late. With family and friends going through health issues, as well as the current political climate and disturbing news on suicide, prayers and action are needed on so many fronts. The lazy days of summer don't seem to be so carefree anymore and I would like to put out a “call to action” to all our citizens.



Mayor Linda  
Blechinger

Weighing heavily on my mind is suicide. This is a national crisis that affects each and every one of us. There are very few folks that have not been touched by a friend or family member attempting or dying by suicide. Our veterans have the highest percentage of suicide—with an estimated 22 veterans dying each day. But did you know that Barrow County has a 46% higher than state average of suicides? Eight of the past 10 years, Barrow County has had a higher than state average suicide rate. Teen suicides in Barrow are more than twice the state average. Not only is the social impact overwhelming, the economic impact is staggering. The future economic productivity loss to the State of Georgia is estimated to be \$180,000,000 (<https://oasis.state.ga.us/oasis>). The City of Auburn has been affected greatly by suicide—in 2018, we had a number of suicides within a four month period. Not only did this affect the families and friends of the deceased, it had a great impact on our officers and first responders, who are the first to respond to these calls. With the teen suicide rate so high, one has to consider the reasons and how we can combat them.

Bullying. Yes—I said it. It is time to take a stance on something that is a moral and societal issue. What we know about bullying is that its unwanted, aggressive behavior among school-aged children that involves a real or perceived power imbalance. Bullying includes actions such as making threats, spreading rumors, attacking someone physically or verbally, and excluding someone from a group on purpose. Bullying can occur in-person or through technology. • Bullying has serious and lasting negative effects on the mental health and overall well-being of youth involved in bullying in any way including: those who bully others, youth who are bullied, as well as those youth who both bully others and are bullied by others, sometimes referred to as bully-victims. • Even youth who have observed but not participated in bullying behavior report significantly more feelings of helplessness and less sense of connectedness and support from responsible adults (parents/schools) than youth who are have not witnessed bullying behavior. • Negative outcomes of bullying (for youth who bully others, youth who are bullied, and youth who both are bullied and bully others) may include: depression, anxiety, involvement in interpersonal violence or sexual violence, substance abuse, poor social functioning, and poor school performance, including lower grade point averages, standardized test scores, and poor attendance. • Youth who report frequently bullying others and youth who report being frequently bullied are at increased risk for suicide-related behavior. • Youth who report both bullying others and being bullied (bully-victims) have the highest risk for suicide-related behavior of any groups that report involvement in bullying. It's time to step up and stomp this out. For more resources on bullying, suicide prevention and other ways you can help, please visit [www.cdc.gov/violenceprevention/pdf/bullying-suicide-translation-final-a.pdf](http://www.cdc.gov/violenceprevention/pdf/bullying-suicide-translation-final-a.pdf).

We can be part of the solution! When you're nice, you're not bullying anyone. When you are kind, you stand up against the bully.” Daniel Lubetzky



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

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

## July 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

## Find Leaks. Save Water and Save Money!

An undetected water leak in or around your home wastes our precious water resources and can also be costly for your wallet. Water leaks account for more than 10,000 gallons of water waste in an average home very year. The most common water leak around the home often involves your toilets. If your toilet is running constantly, you could be wasting more than 200 gallons of water every day! To detect a toilet leak, listen for hissing or running water noise coming from the toilet or tank, make sure the water level is no higher than 1 inch below the top of the overflow tube and perform a dye test on your toilet tank. To conduct a dye test, just add a teaspoon of food coloring or some dye tablets to the tank. After 30 minutes without flushing, check to see if any color has appeared in the bowl.

Old or worn-out toilet flappers (e.g., valve seal) can cause leaks. Flappers are inexpensive rubber parts that can build up minerals or decay over time. Replacing them can be a quick and easy fix for your water woes. To fix this leak, consult your local hardware store, home improvement retailer, or licensed plumber. Here are some online resources from WaterSense partners:

- WaterSense Bath Hack #3 shows how easy it is to Replace Your Leaky Toilet Flapper. <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=TPeViXlqOPE&feature=youtu.be>
- Spartanburg Water in South Carolina has a useful video tutorial on detecting leaky toilets. <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=2IS3GhmF1p0>
- Concord General Services has a dye test video on how to detect a toilet leak. <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=yT8FYDB43a0>
- The Regional Water Providers Consortium has a step-by-step video on how to fix a leaky toilet. <https://www.conserveh2o.org/how-to-videos-water-conservation>



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SAVE THE DATE! SATURDAY JULY 6, 2019



Auburn Annual Independence Day Celebration  
Fireworks, Food, Crafts, Inflatables for the Kids, Live Music!  
Great Fun for the Whole Family! - 5:00 pm. Fireworks at Dusk!

## 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

- 07/02 at 5PM: City Council Business Meeting
- 07/10 at 6:30PM: Parks & Leisure Commission
- 07/11 at 6PM: Downtown Development Authority
- 07/18 at 5PM: City Council Workshop
- 07/17 at 6PM: Planning & Zoning Commission

## Auburn Library Programs & Events



- July 1, 8, 15, 22, 29 at 1PM: Stitch, Knit and Crochet Club: Bring yarn and knitting needles
- July 4—Independence Day—Library Closed
- July 3 at 10AM: Fandom Fridays
- July 8, 15, at 11:15AM: Ready to Read - Pre K Story Time
- July 8 at 6PM: Cover to Cover Book Club
- July 9 at 10AM: Wildlife Presentation
- July 10, 17 at 11:30AM: Auburn Lapsit Story Time— up to 2 years
- July 11, 18 at 5PM: Teen Nights
- July 13 at 12PM: Saturday Crafternoon
- July 16 at 10AM: Big Thinkers
- July 17 at 1PM: Write On!
- July 23 at 10AM: End of Summer Reading Blast-Off!
- July 23 at 5PM: Auburn Teen Writing Group

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## It's Mosquito Season!

The recent rains have made the upper portion of the state relatively wet and left water standing in low-lying areas. These temporary habitats can be very productive for mosquitoes due to the lack of fish and other aquatic predators. Localized rainfall events play a major role in most mosquito populations and their potential for disease transmission. All mosquitoes need moisture, either standing water or boggy soil, to develop from eggs to adults. Only adult mosquitoes bite.

Georgians often remember to rinse birdbaths and dump out buckets and toys, and there are many other potential mosquito habitats that people often forget. The most common larval habitats around homes and gardens are the dishes and trays associated with potted plants. Other habitats include tarps, downspouts, underground drainage systems and boats. Basically, anything that can hold water can become a breeding ground for mosquitoes. Used tires are a particularly problematic habitat for container-breeding mosquitoes. Residents should contact their local solid-waste departments to find out about scrap tire amnesty days or other ways to dispose of old tires.

The best way to prevent mosquito-borne disease is to avoid mosquito bites. Wearing pants and long sleeves that are loose-fitting and lightly colored minimizes our attractiveness to the host-seeking female mosquito. Only female mosquitoes bite. They need a blood meal to develop eggs. Using Environmental Protection Agency-approved insect repellents is also extremely important. When used as directed, EPA-registered repellents are proven safe and effective. For more information about reducing mosquito populations, visit [www.extension.uga.edu/publications](http://www.extension.uga.edu/publications).

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juggernautcycles.com  
juggernautsgarage@gmail.com

**Kenny's Heating & Air, LLC**  
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Kenny Childs  
Richard Johnson  
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## Auburn Parks & Leisure Commission

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

- July 13—Community Yard Sale
- July 10—Parks & Leisure Meeting—6:30 pm City Hall
- July 17—OWLS Day Trip—9 am—Meet at Auburn City Hall



## It's That Time! U.S. Census Is Coming Soon!

### How the 2020 Census will invite everyone to respond



#### What to Expect in the Mail

When it's time to respond, most households will receive an invitation in the mail.

Every household will have the option of responding online, by mail, or by phone.

Depending on how likely your area is to respond online, you'll receive either an invitation encouraging you to respond online or an invitation along with a paper questionnaire.

#### Letter Invitation

- Most areas of the country are likely to respond online, so most households will receive a letter asking you to go online to complete the census questionnaire.
- We plan on working with the U.S. Postal Service to stagger the delivery of these invitations over several days. This way we can spread out the number of users responding online, and we'll be able to serve you better if you need help over the phone.

#### Letter Invitation and Paper Questionnaire

- Areas that are less likely to respond online will receive a paper questionnaire along with their invitation. The invitation will also include information about how to respond online or by phone.

#### WHAT WE WILL SEND IN THE MAIL

On or between	You'll receive:
March 12-20	An invitation to respond online to the 2020 Census. (Some households will also receive paper questionnaires.)
March 16-24	A reminder letter.
March 26-April 3	<b>If you haven't responded yet:</b> A reminder postcard.
April 8-16	A reminder letter and paper questionnaire.
April 20-27	A final reminder postcard before we follow up in person.

#### We understand you might miss our initial letter in the mail.

- Every household that hasn't already responded will receive reminders and will eventually receive a paper questionnaire.
- It doesn't matter which initial invitation you get or how you get it—we will follow up in person with all households that don't respond.

### Survey Finds Only 45 Percent Know That Census Data Guide Community Funding Decisions

Knowing that the census guides how much money a community gets from the government is the most important reason for people to respond to the census, according to results from a 2018 Census Bureau survey.

Thirty percent of respondents specifically said the most significant reason to reply to the census is the knowledge that census data are used to guide public funding decisions. Another 17% said it's that it benefits their community's future, while 15% said the most important reason is that it provides information for local governments.

In another survey, just over 40% of survey respondents did not feel it matters whether they are personally counted in the 2020 Census, and young people ages 18 to 34 were the least likely to believe it matters if they are counted. It matters! Don't be one of the 40%!

When you receive your census invitation, please respond! Accurate numbers are very important to you and your local governments.

Questions about the census in Auburn? Contact [Cityplanner@cityofauburn-ga.org](mailto:Cityplanner@cityofauburn-ga.org).

## It's That Time of Year—Auburn Farmer's Market

Beginning in June, the Auburn Farmer's Market will resume at the Burel Park Pavilion. The Farmer's Market will run every Wednesday from 5:00 to 8:00 pm from June through October.

Have a garden this year that provided a bountiful harvest? Come out and set up a table to sell your excess. This would be a great time to think about getting a plot at our Community Garden behind City Hall.

Not a gardener? Looking to buy some homegrown fruits and vegetables? The Farmer's Market will offer locally produced fruits and vegetables. You can find the best jellies and salsa. Do you love homemade Ice Cream? You can usually find chocolate, peach and strawberry ice cream. Local honey, live plants, boiled peanuts, and much more can be found at the Market.

If you are interested in becoming a vendor at the Farmer's Market, please contact [jcampbell@cityofauburn-ga.org](mailto:jcampbell@cityofauburn-ga.org) for an application.

