

HAPPY  
Thanksgiving

### OWLS Luncheon

(Older Wiser Laughing Seniors)

Wednesday, December 18 at 11:30 am at the  
Perry Rainey Center, 16 College Street

Bring a side dish or dessert to share.  
Need more information? Call Michelle at  
770-963-4002 ext 204

This month: Christmas Party Planning and Games

AUBURN

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

[www.cityofauburn-ga.org](http://www.cityofauburn-ga.org)



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

**MONDAYS: November 4, 18, 25 \$30 (3 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](mailto:tenniswithjosh@gmail.com) - 770-547-8647

### November is National Family Literacy Month

National Family Literacy Month is an annual designation observed in November. This month, get the whole family snuggled up on the couch and open up a good book. Studies show that reading aloud with mom or dad is the most important activity when it comes to preparing children to read on their own. And if you raise a good reader... Pretty much anything is possible! Reading helps with vocabulary, writing skills, attention span, memory, and teaches us about other times and places. Even if your child is just a baby, you should still sit down and read with them every once in a while. An infant can look at pictures and listen to your voice as you read stories to them... And believe it or not, studies show that that alone can have a profound effect on your child when it comes to learning later on in life. Grab a few books, gather the fam, snuggle up, and let a book take you all to another place together.

Get the whole family together and enjoy some reading. Use #FamilyLiteracyMonth to post on social media. If you are reading to toddlers or other young children, try to remember when you were young, and the way you liked listening to your parents or teachers read with excitement in their voice, and when they gave you enough time to look at the pictures as well as listening to the words. Here are a few things you can do this month (and hopefully every month to follow) to participate in National Family Literacy Month.

1. Set aside a little time for reading every day, even if it's only for 15 or so minutes. Go through both old and new books, and set some of your favorites around the house. They make cute decorations, and maybe one of the kids will pick one up and start reading!
2. Take a few trips to the library.
3. Read your child the book version of their favorite movie. If they can read on their own, encourage them to read it!
4. Start a book club with friends and family.
5. Participate in a book drive and donate old or used books you no longer need. This will help families in need read to their kids.

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Richard Johnson

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### 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](mailto:mwalker@cityofauburn-ga.org)



### Juggernaut Cycles

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### Fence America



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678-698-8926

November 2019

Volume 11, Issue 11

Facebook Us



# 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. It is also 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!

With December right around the corner, the season of giving is upon us. Last month I discussed the services available to citizens. This month, I'd like to thank the agencies that are serving our citizens and encourage you to give back. There are numerous options to donate your time and money that you see advertised all the time. A great resource again is the Barrow County Family Connection Resource Guide. This can be found at <https://barrowfamilyconnection.org/wp-content/uploads/2018/03/2018-Resource-Guide-v2.pdf>. During the holidays, the need is great in our community and with your time or your financial assistance, you can make the holidays better for your neighbors.

Another topic that I have spoken on lately is the issue of mental health and suicide. Please remember that the holidays are difficult times for many in our community. Lack of family support systems or estrangement from family, high expectations of the "perfect holiday" and loneliness can lead to thoughts of self-harm. If you or someone you know is in a dark place this holiday season, please reach out to the resources that are available to you. Along with local churches and organizations, there are hotlines available for folks in crisis. The National Suicide Hotline can be reached at 800-784-2833 24 hours a day. The Suicide Prevention Lifeline is another toll free number available 24/7—800-273-TALK. Even if the individual is not suicidal, depression is a serious issue. Let them know you are there for them and encourage them. Sometimes all it takes is a kind word or gesture to brighten someone's life.



Mayor Linda  
Blechinger



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

Come out to our magical celebration and kick off of the Christmas Season. Set for Sunday, 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

- 11/07 at 5PM: City Council Business Meeting
- 11/14 at 6PM: Downtown Development Authority
- 11/11—City Offices Closed for Veterans Day
- 11/13 at 6PM: Parks & Leisure Commission
- 11/21 at 5PM: City Council Workshop
- 11/28-11/29—Thanksgiving Holiday—City Office Closed

## Monarch Butterflies Migrate Through Georgia

It is the time of the year when Georgians look to the sky to watch for signs of Monarch migration. These butterflies are on their way to the Sierra Madre Mountains of Mexico to overwinter on the oyamel fir trees of the area. The fir trees provide the perfect climate with a combination of optimal temperature and humidity to ensure the butterflies survive the winter. It is amazing to realize that this super-generation of migrating butterflies endure the hazards of the trip to go to a place that they have never been before.

Reports around Georgia are that Monarch populations are high. A poll taken of insect enthusiasts showed that 83% have seen Monarchs heading south this year. Thirty percent of the respondents indicated that they are seeing a higher number of Monarchs than last year. This is terrific news as Monarch population numbers have been inconsistent over the last several seasons.

To increase the chances of seeing this phenomenon and to assist the butterflies create a fall migration garden. Monarchs will descend from their high migration path looking for food resources. Research shows that migrating butterflies respond to tall flowers that are easily accessible. Joe Pye weed (*Eutrochium purpureum*), goldenrod (*Solidago* spp.) and Mexican sunflower (*Tithonia rotundifolia*) are all proven Monarch attractors in the fall. Several of our fall-blooming native aster plants (*Aster* spp.) are perfect for these butterflies as well. The butterflies do not need milkweed (*Asclepias* spp.), their larval host plant, at this time of the year. But be sure to include milkweed in your summer butterfly garden.

To follow the Monarch migration and to report your butterfly populations visit Journey North (<https://journeynorth.org/monarchs>). This organization has tabulated the reports of citizen scientists for many years and is a great resource for school groups. Monarch Watch (<https://www.monarchwatch.org>) provides online information for learning about these insects and their habitat needs. Contact your Gwinnett County Extension Office at [www.ugaextension.com/gwinnett](http://www.ugaextension.com/gwinnett) or 678-377-4010 for more information about butterfly gardening and habitat building. If you miss seeing the fall migration spend time getting your garden ready for the Monarch return in the spring!

## Auburn Library Programs & Events

- November 2 @2PM: Auburn Lego Club
- November 6, 13, 20, 27 at 10AM: Auburn Lapsit Story Time—up to 2 years
- November 4, 11, 18, 25 at 11AM: Knit and Crochet Club: Bring yarn and knitting needles
- November 4, 11, 18, 25 at 11:15AM: Ready to Read - Pre K Story Time
- November 7, 21 at 5PM: Teen Nights
- November 9 at 12PM: Saturday Crafternoon
- November 11 at 6PM: Auburn Cover to Cover Book Club
- November 16, 23 at 2PM: STEAM Saturday
- November 18 at 5PM: Friends of Auburn Library
- November 20 at 1PM: Auburn—Write On!
- November 23 at 2PM: Family Story Time
- November 26 at 1PM: Between the Pages Adult Book Club
- November 26 at 5PM: Teen Writing Group



Auburn Public Library  
24 Fifth Street, Auburn, GA  
770-513-2925 [www.prlib.org](http://www.prlib.org)



Monarch migration routes. Source: USGS National Atlas

## 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.

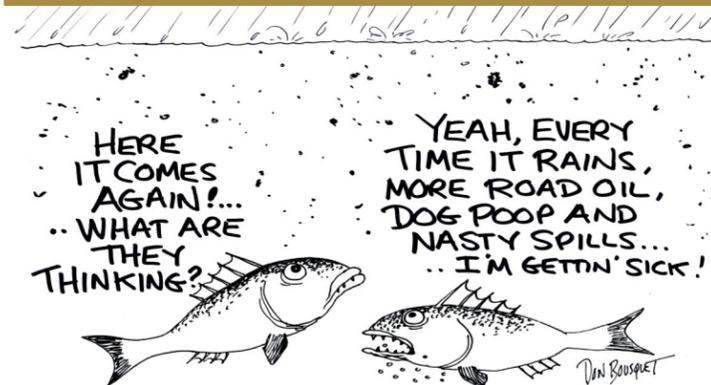
- November 13—Parks & Leisure Commission—6PM
- November 20: OWLS Monthly Luncheon—Perry Rainey Center—11:30AM

## 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



## 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 handmade gifts, the Whistlestop Shops can be your one stop shop for the holidays.

## 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. You can visit Hue Graphics for custom gift ideas then grab a bite at Rocky's. There is something for everyone on your gift list!

## Adult Literacy Barrow Announces that 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. GED Classes are held every Tuesday and Thursday night from 5:30pm to 8:30pm at the Perry-Rainey Center (16 College St.) next to Auburn Elementary School. GED test scholarships are available. This is a self paced program, with text books, online GED test prep, math tutors, and transition to college provided. The sooner you start, the sooner you graduate. Start today, and bring a friend! 770.531.3361 Call to register for free GED classes.

Classes for English as a Second Language will be held on Monday and Wednesday nights from 5:30 to 8:30 at the Perry-Rainey Center (16 College St. across from the Post Office). *Home country identification accepted.* Call 770.531.3369 to register.

## MEDICINE WHEEL CLINIC



85 Auburn Park Drive  
Auburn, Georgia 30011

770-277-7958  
Fax 770-277-9628  
On-Call 678-313-3574

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Honoring all who served  
**VETERANS DAY**  
11<sup>TH</sup> NOVEMBER

