



Monday, January 20, 2020

OWLS Luncheon
(Older Wiser Laughing Seniors)
Wednesday, January 15, 2020—11:30 am
Perry Rainey Center, 16 College Street
(next to Auburn Elementary)

This monthly luncheon is the “don’t miss” event for those age 50 and better. Bring a side dish or dessert to share!

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 6, 14, 20, 27 (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 Athletic Spring Ball Registration Now Open

The 2020 Spring Ball Registration is now open! Your child will love playing in the family-oriented ball program.

Please visit <https://www.auburnyouthathletics.org/> Here you will find the link to register your child, the 2020 schedule and more!

Questions? Please contact Parks Director Michael Parks at 770-963-4002 ext 230 or parksdirector@cityofauburn-ga.org

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Auburn Messenger

January 2020

Volume 12, Issue 1



PEOPLE

PASSION

PROGRESS

The Mayor's Corner

Happy New Year!! "We will open the book. Its pages are blank. We are going to put words on them ourselves. The book is called Opportunity and its first chapter is New Year's Day." Edith Lovejoy Pierce I pray that you all have a terrific 2020 with good health and blessings for your family.

I am pleased to announce that Auburn has been awarded a \$96,000 LCI Grant by the Atlanta Regional Commission. The LCI program helps cities with planning, and produces a document that allows them to qualify for federal transportation funds. Since 2000, the program has helped 120 communities qualify for \$314 million for transportation projects resulting from LCI studies.

On December 2, 2019, city officials and other members of the Downtown Auburn team gathered to put together the LCI Study agenda and schedule. TSW, who also conducted the Downtown Auburn planning charrette, will be leading the LCI Study process.

An Advisory Group of residents will be chosen, and will meet several times in the coming months, to bring a variety of perspectives to the plan.

There will be opportunities for the public to weigh in on various plan elements, and then to review the draft document. Ultimately, the final plan will be presented to Mayor and Council in another public meeting.

One area of particular focus will be the existing City Hall, Police Department and Council Chambers properties. We have worked hard to address concerns that our Historic Downtown stays a priority. We want to make sure this area will grow, adding residents and businesses with a healthy mix."

Dave Schmit, Auburn's master development partner, says. "We envision several main character areas for Downtown. The new City Hall area will be more of a quieter core, with the school and park spaces. While in the 4th Avenue area, we'll see more energy and vibrancy. This is where the action is. Since the city owns several of the central buildings in this area, we can use those to incubate the uses we would like to see, with market research testing along the way to make sure they are sustainable long term. Then there will be a transition zone around 4th and 6th Avenues, and outside the Perry-Rainey Center, to activate investment along that corridor. Perhaps a boulevard-style streetscape to transition between the vibrant and the residential."

Details of public events and project milestones will be published by the city throughout the LCI Study process, which is expected to be completed in November, 2020.

I am so excited to be a part of Auburn's well-planned future!



Mayor Linda Blechinger



Facebook Us

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Auburn Library Programs & Events

January 1—New Years Day—Library Closed
January 6, 13, 20, 27 at 11AM: Knit and Crochet Club:
Bring yarn and knitting needles
January 6, 13, 20, 27 at 11:15AM: Ready to Read -
Pre K Story Time
January 8, 15, 22, 29 at 10AM: Auburn Lapsit Story
Time—up to 2 years
January 8, 15, 22, 29 at 11AM: Auburn Toddler Tales
January 9, 16, 23, 30 at 5PM: Auburn Teen Nights
January 11 at 11AM: Virtual Reality Play Day
January 11 at 12PM: Saturday Crafters
January 13 at 6PM: Cover to Cover Book Club
January 15 at 1PM: Auburn Write On
January 16 at 6PM: Bunco Night
January 18 at 2PM: Auburn STEAM
January 25 at 2PM: Family Storytime
January 28 at 1PM: Between the Pages Adult Book Club



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

Auburn Museum News

Wednesdays 10-1, Thursdays 1-4 and Saturdays 12-3.
Closed on 5th week.
Storytelling for all ages on Saturdays. Historical items for sale to benefit museum archive room. Volunteer applications are available at the museum or from Josh at City Hall. Come by and enjoy a cup of hot chocolate or tea and read a story from Myldred Flanigan Hutchins' book "Red Clay."

Leaves and Stormwater!

Contrary to what many people believe the water that goes in to the storm drainage system, including ditches, IS NOT treated at wastewater treatment plants. Rather, it causes clogs in our drainage culverts and drains into our lakes and streams. Most people don't realize that leaves can be a nagging source of local water pollution.

In the fall, leaves make their way into our lakes and streams when rain washes them down the storm drain and ditches. Once they get into the water, the leaves release nutrients that contribute to the accelerated growth of algae. As algae decompose, it can kill fish and other aquatic critters and generally make water recreation an unpleasant experience.

Inevitably, some leaves will get into the water regardless of what we do to stop the, but we can prevent much of the pollution by following these simple water-friendly practices.

Compost: Adding leaves to a compost pile creates an inexpensive and nutrient-rich fertilizer for vegetable and flower gardens. Composting allows us to imitate and reap the rewards of the natural recycling process.

Till: You can till leaves directly into a garden, contributing valuable organic matter.

Mulch: If you have a mulching mower, you can chop the leaves into small particles that will decompose directly into your lawn. If you have a bagger on your mulching mower, you can use the leaves to mulch flowerbeds and shrubs.

Rake: Rake leaves for curbside pickup. If you do, collect the leaves in a bag or a returnable refuse container.

To protect all of us and our environment, Chapter 16 of the City of Auburn Illicit Discharge and Illegal Connection Ordinance prohibits unauthorized discharges into storm drains or ditch systems. The cost for removing dumped items and cleaning spills are very high. Please dispose of your trash and waste properly. To report any illegal dumping contact the Stormwater Coordinator at (770)963-4002 X 207.

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
01/02 at 5PM: City Council Business Meeting
01/08 at 6:30PM: Parks & Leisure Commission
01/09 at 6PM: Downtown Development Authority
01/15 at 6PM: Planning & Zoning
01/16 at 5PM: City Council Workshop
01/20 City Offices Closed for Martin Luther King Jr Day

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.

Classes are held evenings in Auburn at the Perry-Rainey Center near 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 Iodq5ion. The Winder Campus will be offering Citizenship Classes too.

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

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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 8—Parks & Leisure Commission

January 15—OWLS Luncheon—11:30 am—OWLS Luncheon—Auburn Center

Christmas Decorating Contest

The City of Auburn recently hosted a Christmas Decorations photo contest. The winners were: 1st Place: Sally Haynes; 2nd Place: Rhonda Greene and 3rd Place: Hannah Gibbons. Congratulations to all who entered! We have a beautiful city all year round but especially at Christmas!



Beating the “January Blues”

The January Blues are a real thing! More than 10 million people are reported to suffer from this seasonal depression. The key to good emotional health at any time — and especially in January — is catching depression early on before it can spiral downward, experts say.

Several techniques can help increase well-being. You can start by practicing better self-care during holidays—Schedule a massage. Join a support group. Surround yourself with good friends and lots of love. Or start a new activity like a spinning class.

Using kindness and gratitude is another way to beat the blues. Use problems to connect with others — and heal. Your experiences can help others and lift your own mood. Studies show that random acts of kindness can be potent psychological boosts because they trigger the release of dopamine, the feel-good neurotransmitter. The acts also shift our focus from ourselves to others so that we forget our problems. Experts also recommend journaling—the doorway to your inner thoughts and your ideal life. Don't just journal about how miserable you are though—Keep a gratitude journal. Research shows that an attitude of gratitude can increase happiness, improve sleep, and reduce depression. Even the immune system is strengthened. Gratitude is also a learned skill that can be honed over time. Write down at least five things you're grateful for and revisit it daily. Realizing how many gifts we have feels good. Focus on things you're grateful for—that can be yoga, a book club, walking with friends, or getting unconditional love from pets.

For an online, shareable journal, go to thnx4.org, created by the Greater Good Science Center at University of California at Berkeley.