

open line

a monthly newsletter for you, our residents.

NOVEMBER 2024



City of Auburn

FALL 2024 ELECTION know where to vote.

**Election Day is around the corner,
Auburn residents!**

Depending on where you live, *you might be voting in a new location this year.*

After the 2020 census, the City of Auburn and Lee County have redistricted, which could mean you're in a different ward or district than you were in 2020. The city and county have also created additional polling places in response to population changes.

As a result, you might not vote in the same place this year as you did in the 2020 presidential election. If you voted in the March 2024 primary, your voting place should be the same in November if you haven't moved to a new home address.

Still in the mix as polling places in the Auburn city limits are Boykin Community Center (410 Boykin St.), Frank Brown Recreation Center (235 Opelika Road) and Dean Road Recreation Center (307 S. Dean Road). New voting locations include Embrace Church (2142 N. College St.), Church of the Highlands (1920 E. Glenn Ave.), Parkway Baptist Church (766 E. University Drive), Auburn Community Church (2200 Hamilton Road) and our new Wire Road Soccer Complex (2340 Wire Road). Voting will no longer take place at the Clarion Inn and Suites on South College Street.

Lee County administers all county, state and federal elections, so they will have your best election resources for November. You can find information on voter registration, absentee voting, how to apply to be a poll worker, important dates and deadlines leading up to Nov. 5, and a list of all county polling places at leeco.us/government/elections. You can also call Lee County at (334) 737-3670 (Office of the Probate Judge) with general election questions; the Absentee Election Manager, James Majors, at (334) 737-3670 for absentee voting questions; or (334) 737-3635 (Board of Registrars) with voter registration questions.

Just need to verify your voting location? Visit myinfo.alabamavotes.gov/voterview and enter your name, date of birth and address to verify your voter registration

information and voting location for November.

Absentee voting is already underway. You can obtain an absentee ballot application at the Bennie G. Adkins Meeting Center at 205 S. 10th St. in Opelika between 8:30 a.m. and 4:30 p.m. For more information on absentee voting, visit leeco.us/government/elections/absentee.php or call (334) 737-3670.

As always, polling places on election day will be open 7 a.m. to 7 p.m. and a photo voter ID is required. Please remember to verify your voting location before you vote!

dates to remember

OCTOBER 21
Voter registration
deadline

OCTOBER 29
Last day to apply for an
absentee ballot by mail

OCTOBER 31
Last day to apply for
an absentee ballot in
person

NOVEMBER 4
Completed absentee
ballots must be
received.

NOVEMBER 5
Election Day

Board & commission vacancies

The Auburn City Council is looking for volunteers to serve on the Parks and Recreation Advisory Board. Two vacancies on the board will be filled at the Nov. 5 Auburn City Council meeting.

Applications will open on Oct. 2 and close on Oct. 28. Find more information and apply at auburnalabama.org/boards.

Auburn Drive Thru Toy Drive

The drive thru Auburn Toy Drive will be held at the Dean Road Recreation Center (307 S. Dean Road) on Saturday, Dec. 14. Help us bless disadvantaged children in Auburn by donating newly purchased unwrapped toys from 8 a.m.-4 p.m.

Volunteers will be needed on Dec. 14 and Dec. 15 as we sort, package and distribute toys to registered families. Keep an eye on auburnalabama.org/toy-drive for registration and volunteer details.



2024 Holiday Art Sale

Support local artists while marking names off your holiday shopping list! Auburn Parks & Recreation is partnering with the Auburn Arts Association to host the 18th annual Holiday Art Sale on Saturday, Nov. 16, from 9 a.m.-4 p.m. at the Auburn Parks and Recreation Complex on Opelika Road. Local artists will sell paintings, pottery, stained glass, photography, cards, jewelry, hats, scarves and more!

For more information about this year's event or to register to be a vendor, visit auburnalabama.org/arts.

November holiday closures & schedules

Most City facilities will be closed on Monday, Nov. 11, in observance of Veterans Day and Thursday and Friday, Nov. 28 and 29, in observance of Thanksgiving.

Downtown parking will be free on both holidays. Public Safety services, including police, fire and communications will remain on their regular schedules. Garbage, trash and recycling pickup routes will be adjusted as follows:

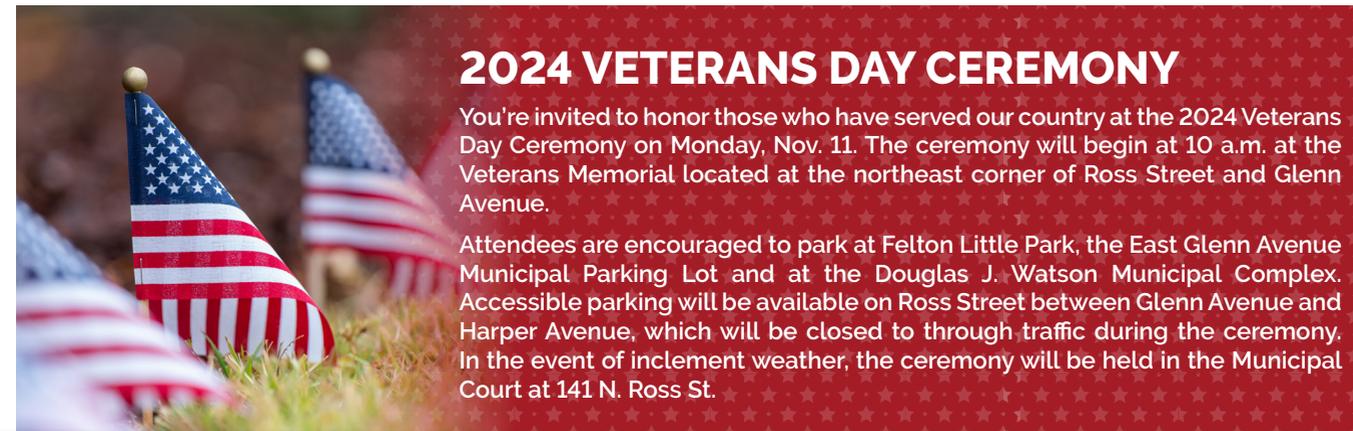
VETERANS DAY

Monday, Nov. 11	HOLIDAY
Tuesday, Nov. 12	Monday's route
Wednesday, Nov. 13	Tuesday's route
Thursday, Nov. 14	Wednesday's route
Friday, Nov. 15	Thursday's route

THANKSGIVING WEEK

Monday, Nov. 25	No change
Tuesday, Nov. 26	No change
Wednesday, Nov. 27	No change
Thursday, Nov. 28	HOLIDAY
Friday, Nov. 29	Thursday's route

The Auburn Public Library will be closed on Nov. 11, 28 and 29. Book drops will remain open, and the online collection of e-books, e-audiobooks and digital magazines are always available at auburnalabama.org/library.



2024 VETERANS DAY CEREMONY

You're invited to honor those who have served our country at the 2024 Veterans Day Ceremony on Monday, Nov. 11. The ceremony will begin at 10 a.m. at the Veterans Memorial located at the northeast corner of Ross Street and Glenn Avenue.

Attendees are encouraged to park at Felton Little Park, the East Glenn Avenue Municipal Parking Lot and at the Douglas J. Watson Municipal Complex. Accessible parking will be available on Ross Street between Glenn Avenue and Harper Avenue, which will be closed to through traffic during the ceremony. In the event of inclement weather, the ceremony will be held in the Municipal Court at 141 N. Ross St.

heroin and fentanyl — and double as search and rescue dogs that help locate missing people or suspects on the run. The other four K9s are trained to identify around 15 different odors related to explosives.

While our narcotics K9s came from different kennels across the Southeast, the department's explosives K9s were all bred and trained through Auburn University's Canine Performance Sciences program.

Regardless of the K9's specialty, training is a constant. While they never lose their sense of smell, they need practice to keep their skills up.

When a K9 and their handler are first paired up, they can quickly form a bond, but it takes six months to a year to "polish" their ability to work as a team, said Sgt. Webb Sistrunk, the lead K9 narcotics handler.

"For the first few months, you question whether your dog is going to get things right," Sistrunk remembered. "Sometimes that's on the K9, and sometimes that's because of the handler's behavior. But now, after years together, we know what each other are thinking."

"While the dogs come with training, detecting odors is just the bare basics," said Perry, who has worked with his K9 Ikia, a Deutsch Drahthaar and Labrador mix, for nine years. "There's so much more to learn about working with another living, breathing animal."

READ MORE ONLINE.

This story was trimmed for print. Read the full version at openline.auburnalabama.org.



Auburn's finest sniffers

A look into what it takes to become an APD K9

Game days require hundreds of law enforcement officers to keep our community and visitors safe — both on campus and around the community. Among those ranks are a team of trained sniffers that are key to ensuring kickoff goes off without a hitch.

Ikia, Jet, Kenzie, Leon, Max, Mia, Spectrum and Underdog report to work just like their handlers. And, just like their handlers, they go through intensive training before they can report for duty. Ranging from nine years of service to just a few months on the job, the Auburn Police Department's K9s are one of the most valuable tools our officers have.

"There's no technology out there right now that will replicate a dog's nose," said Lt. James Perry, the department's senior K9 handler.

If you want to understand the ability of a dog's nose, Perry has two words for you: beef stew. While you might be able to identify your grandma's stew simply by the smell, a K9 can tell you how much salt is in it, what kind of beef was used, whether it includes carrots or potatoes — they're true experts. While they have a keen natural ability, training is an essential and ongoing requirement for K9s and their handlers.

Most of our K9s come to the job with their innate smelling-skills honed to detect and react a certain way to certain odors. The department's four narcotics K9s are trained to locate about eight odors — such as marijuana, cocaine,

departments

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State of the City Address

The Auburn community is invited to join Mayor Ron Anders as he reflects on Auburn's challenges and successes at the fifth annual State of the City Address. The event will be held Tuesday, Nov. 12, at the Jay and Susie Gogue Performing Arts Center. Doors will open at 5 p.m., and the event will begin at 5:30 p.m.

Auburn residents will get a glimpse of what their local government has been up to in 2024, and Mayor Anders will conclude the evening by presenting the 2024 Mayor's Lamplighter Awards that recognize the efforts six community members have made to make Auburn even brighter.

The event is free and open to the public. The Jay and Susie Gogue Performing Arts Center is located at 910 S. College St.

NOVEMBER 2024 **upcoming events**

Open Line is produced by the Office of the City Manager
334.501.7268 | openline@auburnlabama.org

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
<p><i>Background photo: The Veterans Memorial Monument in the fall.</i></p>	<p>Auburn Public Library auburnlabama.org/library</p> <p>City Meetings auburnlabama.org/boards</p> <p>Parks & Recreation auburnlabama.org/parks</p> <p>Citywide Events auburnlabama.org</p>	<p>Programs & events are subject to change.</p> <p>Find up-to-date information at auburnlabama.org.</p>			<p>1</p> <p>Puppet Shows (in person/virtual) Fridays @ 9:30 a.m. & 3:30 p.m.</p> <p>Tree Commission 11:30 a.m.</p>	<p>2</p> <p>Family Story Time Saturdays @ 9:30 a.m.</p> <p>Untidy Tales Saturdays @ 10:30 a.m.</p> <p>Movers & Shakers Saturdays @ 1 p.m.</p> <p>Local Authors in the Library @ 2 p.m.</p>
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
	<p>Movie Matinee 3:30 p.m.</p> <p>Cemetery Advisory Board 4 p.m.</p> <p>Winter Program Registration Begins</p>	<p>Preschool Story Time Tuesdays @ 9:30 a.m.</p> <p>Parks & Recreation Advisory Board 11:45 a.m.</p> <p>PreK in PJs Tuesdays @ 1 p.m.</p> <p>S.T.E.A.M Lab (Grades K-3) Tuesdays @ 3:30 p.m.</p> <p>Committee of the Whole TBD</p> <p>City Council 6 p.m.</p>	<p>Baby's 1st Story Time Wednesdays @ 9:30 a.m.</p> <p>Untidy Tales Wednesdays @ 1 p.m.</p> <p>Culture Explorers Club (Grades 4-6) Wednesdays @ 4 p.m.</p> <p>Board of Zoning Adjustment 4:30 p.m.</p>	<p>Toddler Tales Thursdays @ 9:30 a.m.</p> <p>Lullabies for Little Ones Thursdays @ 1 p.m.</p> <p>#TeenTrends (Grades 7-12) Thursdays @ 4 p.m.</p>		
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
	<p><i>Happy Veterans Day!</i></p> <p>Veterans Day Ceremony 10 a.m. @ Veterans Memorial Monument</p>	<p>Historic Preservation Commission 4 p.m.</p> <p>Adults Create: Polymer Clay Jewelry 5:30 p.m.</p>		<p>City Council Agenda Review Meeting 4 p.m.</p> <p>No Bake & Take Treats (Grades 7-12) 4:30 p.m.</p> <p>Planning Commission 5 p.m.</p>		<p>Holiday Art Sale 9 a.m.-4 p.m. @ Auburn Parks & Rec Complex</p> <p>Adults Create: Polymer Clay Jewelry 5:30 p.m.</p>
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
	<p>Letters to Santa Begins</p>	<p>Library Board 10 a.m.</p> <p>Greenspace Advisory Board Noon</p> <p>Chapter Chats Book Club 5:30 p.m.</p> <p>Committee of the Whole TBD</p> <p>City Council 6 p.m.</p>		<p>Water Works Board 4 p.m.</p>		
24	25	26	27	28	29	30
				<p><i>Happy Thanksgiving!</i></p>		